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ANDOVER TOWNSMAN

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SPRING HAS SPRUNG



Photo by Tim Jean

Andover kids Mason Fried and Ben Weiner reach the end of their rope – and are pulled back by the bungee cord, at the Andona Society's Spring Fling event.

Major: 'How far in the red do we want to put ourselves?'

No AVOIDING 2002 OVERRIDE

By Adam Groff

Monday night, by a vote of 3 to 2, the Board of Selectmen cast its lot with the School Committee by finally supporting its recommended school budget over the town manager's. There are now two school budgets set to go before Town Meeting, the \$42.5 million budget backed by the School Committee and the selectmen, and the one recommended by the Finance Committee, which is \$525,000 lower.

All parties agree that whatever budget is approved next month, the necessity for a general override of Proposition 2½ will be virtually guaranteed in the spring of 2002 (for fiscal year 2003), just to maintain existing levels of townwide staffing and services and to open the new schools at Cross Street and High Plain Road.

The real question, as Selectmen Chairman Brian Major put it at a Strategic Planning Task Force meeting Monday morning, is, "How far in the red do we want to put ourselves next year?"

Major answered that question by voting against the School Committee budget on Monday night, along with Selectman Ted Teichert.

(Continued on page 17)

Selectmen vote 4-1 to keep smoking sections

Not ready to ban smoking

By Rebecca Piro

Selectmen will not join the fight to ban smoking in every Andover restaurant.

Four out of five selectmen did not back section three of the Board of Health's article, which will ask residents at Town Meeting to remove the variance allowing restaurants to have separate, enclosed smoking sections. If Town Meeting approves the article, Park Street Pub, Andover's lone bar-only establishment, would become the only smoking establishment in town.

The other sections of the Board of Health article ask residents to require new licenses for tobacco retailers, tougher penalties for tobacco-sale violations, the removal of cigarette vending machines and the posting of phone numbers in stores for people to report violations.

After delaying a vote to recommend approval on the warrant article two weeks ago, selectmen took up the issue again Monday night. They promptly shot it down. Despite the extra time, none of the selectmen

expressed a different stance than they had in March.

"It's a way to fight the... insidious impact of tobacco. It's one small step that we can take, and I think we should take it," said Selectman John Hess, who moved that the board recommend the article in its entirety for approval.

The addition of a new selectman to the board did not make any significant change in the board's stance. Selectman Ray Hender, voted into office last

(Continued on page 6)



Photo by Tim Jean

After the flood — Clean-up workers Ralph Bachli and Will Harvey remove destroyed items from a North Main Street home damaged in the recent flood. Story, page 19.

HOME DELIVERY: 475-7000

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Principals looking to leave.

Selectmen back Will Hall money 3-2.

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Come-from-behind volleyball victory.

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TownTalk

In search of a 'good' story

The Washington D.C. reporter from the *Kansas City Star* called Tuesday, working on a humorous piece about President George Bush. It seems the president refers to virtually everyone as a "good man." The reporter said a quick computer search showed the president has used the term about a dozen times in the last month. Others in Washington are also picking up the habit.

The reporter wanted to find the origin of this. Any chance the president picked up the trait while at Phillips?

- NF



Resident Tim Wakeling sent an image from his video camera "of what we believe to be two eagles on top of a chimney on Abbot Street. My wife read that eagles had been sighted in town in a recent edition of the *Townsmen* and I was wondering if these were the same birds." Is there an ornithologist in the house?

Marathon woman: running for a cause

Andover native Brian O'Dell died last October of leukemia at age 35. Now, one of his coworkers is running the Boston Marathon in his memory.

Robyn Tice of Belmont, senior vice president of public relations at State Street Research and Management Co. in Boston, where O'Dell was a portfolio manager, will be running to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America.

"I'm running to keep Brian's spirit alive," said Tice. "He was a person with a zest for life and a real enthusiasm for staying active."

Tice said that in addition to State Street's regular company gift-matching program, it will match employee gifts to her cause again, effectively tripling employee donations.

In addition, O'Dell's father, Ed O'Dell of Wildwood Road, said he will match any donations from partners and retired partners at the Boston law firm of Goodwin

Procter LLP, from which he himself is a retired partner. That firm, too, is matching its partners' gifts, for another donation triple-play.

"My goal is to raise \$20,000," said Tice, "and I'm close."

Brian O'Dell attended Bancroft Elementary School, the Pike School, Governor Dummer Academy, and Brown University. He received a master's degree in applied economics from the University of Michigan. He is survived by his wife and two young sons. Send contributions to Robyn Tice at State Street Research and Management Co., One Financial Center, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111. Make checks payable to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America, and indicate on the memo line that the gift is for the Brian O'Dell Memorial Research Fund.

Tice is one of many Boston marathon runners with Andover connections, several of whom will be profiled in next week's *Townsmen*. — AG



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She cast a S-P-E-L-L on competition

Maya Lucaci-Vashee is no valetudinarian. Indeed, rather than being "of sick and weakly constitution," the Doherty Middle School eighth-grader stood up in front of the audience gathered at Timony Grammar School in Methuen and spelled her way to victory in the 19th annual *Eagle-Tribune* Spelling Bee last Thursday night. Her winning word was "valetudinarian."

"I would just concentrate and see the word in my head," said Maya of her spelling strategy. The 44 contestants Thursday night also had the option of hearing the word in context. Maya said she was not familiar with her final word, but, "I thought the root word in Latin is 'vale,' meaning goodbye."

The Latin root of "valetudinarian" is in fact "valere," meaning to be strong or well, and "vale" is the imperative, used as a farewell, so her judgment was not far off.

Maya will now advance, expenses paid, to the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. at the end of May, an added bonus because she lived in the Washington area until moving with her family to Andover in third grade.

How Maya got to be such a great speller is a bit of a mystery, said her mother, Larisa Lucaci of Glenn Cove. "I have no idea. She had the study book somewhere, and I guess she looked at it sometimes. She plays in a string quartet, and it takes a lot of her time," she said.

It was a great week all around for Maya, who was accepted to Phillips Academy earlier in the



Photo by Tim Jean

Spelling bee winner Maya Lucaci-Vashee.

week, and won the spelling contest on the birthday of her father, Kirti Vashee.

But she did not claim that the contest wasn't stressful.

"At first I said, 'I won't be nervous,'" she said, "but then I got there, and everyone was staring at us, and it was very nerve-wracking. You could feel the tension building up in the audience with every question."

In addition to her trip to Washington, Maya won a trophy for herself and her school, a copy of Merriam-Webster's *Third New International Dictionary*, the Samuel Louis Sugarman Award, a \$100 savings bond, and the *Encyclopedia of Animals* from the *Eagle Tribune*.

Adam Groff

NEWS IN BRIEF

Extra day to file taxes

With April 15 falling on a Sunday this year, and the following day a holiday (April 16 is Patriot's Day), taxpayers have two extra days to file taxes this year.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is giving taxpayers who file at its Andover center until April 17 to file or pay taxes timely, including federal tax payments they may send to Pittsburgh.

The tax law provides that when the April 15 deadline falls on a weekend, taxpayers who file by the next business day that is not a holiday are considered on time. For most of the country, that will be Monday, April 16.

However, in Massachusetts, the third Monday in April is Patriots' Day, a legal holiday. Therefore, taxpayers who filed at the Andover IRS Center will one extra day, until April 17, to timely file their returns.

New firefighter

Robert M. Dalton Jr. graduated from the 142nd Class of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy's 55-day Recruit Firefighting Program last Friday, March 30. This training provides new firefighters with the basic skills to effectively and safely perform their jobs, and is tuition-free by the Massachusetts Fire Academy, a division of the Department of Fire Services.

Web question

Last week's *Townsmen* Web-site question was: Should town officials consider putting the \$500,000 Andover will receive next month for trash expenses toward the school budget?

Of 36 respondents, seven – nearly 20 percent – said, "Yes. Trash pickup is important, but in this case the schools and their budgetary needs take precedence."

Almost 80 percent, or 28 respondents said, "No. I don't want to see my trash disposal costs get any higher than they already are."

One person voted "Other."

This week's question is: Which school budget number would you vote for if Town Meeting was tomorrow, the \$42.5 million backed by the School Committee and the selectmen, or the \$42 million recommended by the Finance Committee?

To vote, surf over to <www.andover-townsmen.com>.

State reports a rare sewer break – in price

Andover sewer customers will find one of the highest rate-relief credits the state has given in years on their next bill. But, they can't get too excited – credit is only about \$6.80.

"It's not a huge amount of money for us," admits Finance Director Tony Torrisi. "I would guess that people would be happy to see anything on their bill."

The state gives Andover, along with several other communities, compensation for the money it pours into sewer projects, such as those that help eliminate water pollution and expand sewer services. Andover's compensation this year – a total of \$30,562 that 4,500 sewer customers must split – is intended to relieve residents' sewer costs, which increase annually as the town pays off its debt from previous projects.

Andover has undertaken four different sewer projects since 1990, spending approximately \$1.6 million, says Torrisi.



In turn, the town has received small increments of money back from the state for several years.

Last year, Andover received \$29,000, which allowed a \$6.68 credit on each customer's bill. In 1999, the state granted Andover only \$14,000 and customers received a \$3.18 credit. Residents pay for sewer service twice a year on their water bills, says Torrisi. The credit will appear once and counts towards the full year, he adds.

—Rebecca Piro

NEWS CALENDAR

Thursday, April 5

Health Department-Camp Training, Town Offices, third-floor conference room, 2 to 4 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals, Memorial Hall Library, 7 p.m.

Selectmen, public hearing on Reichhold property, Town offices, third-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 7

Zoning Board of Appeals, deliberation meeting, Memorial Hall Library, second-floor conference room, 9:30 a.m.

Monday, April 9

Board of Health, 36 Bartlet St., first-floor conference room, 6-9 p.m.

Redistricting Task Force, school committee room, 7:30 p.m.

Selectmen, public hearing on sidewalk master plan, Memorial Hall Library, 7:30 p.m. *Televised.*

Tuesday, April 10

Preservation Committee, Town Offices, second-floor conference room, 6:30 p.m.

Mosquito Control Advisory, 36 Bartlet St., first-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Planning Board, Town Offices, third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Andover Housing Partnership Committee, Town Offices, third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

School Committee, school committee room, 7:30 p.m. *Televised.*

Thursday, April 12

Advisory Board Healthy Communities Tobacco Awareness, 20 Main St., second-floor, 11 a.m.

Government Review Committee, Town Offices, second-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

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Quote, unquote . . .

'Raising a child and being a principal is very difficult."

Sanborn Principal Jade Reitman on her decision to resign. (Story, page 15.)

'We know we're going to get beat."

Team Verizon member Tim Cormay, referring to the hockey team's April 22 match against a team of former Boston Bruins. (Story, page 30.)

'Without a plan, we are helpless victims who lamely react to proposed projects and fail to manage the process for the benefit of the town and its future residents."

Resident Christopher T. Vrontas, calling for the town to come up with a plan for affordable housing. (Letters, page 32.)

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In wake of Worcester, state picks up tab for fire equipment

By Rebecca Piro

Thanks to a state grant of almost \$45,000, the fire department recently purchased several pieces of safety and rescue equipment.

The money comes from the state's Firefighter Safety Equipment Program, which spreads more than \$10 million throughout Massachusetts communities. The grant has only two catches: fire departments must use it in part to purchase thermal imaging cameras and firefighter safety alarms.

"This was a direct result of the Worcester fire," says Chief Chuck Murnane, referring to

the December 1999 warehouse blaze that killed six firefighters who were lost in the fire's thick, blinding smoke.

Thermal imaging cameras can locate a person by their body heat when conditions are blinding to the human eye. The safety alarms, known as PASS alarms, are attached to firefighters' breathing tanks. If a firefighter stops moving for a period of time, such as if the person passed out, the alarm sounds, alerting others that the firefighter is in need of help.

Andover's fire department already owns three of the cameras, says Murnane. He purchased 24 PASS alarms at \$448 each, six breathing apparatuses at \$2,620 each, several wet suits for water rescues, air tanks, hand tools and several other pieces of equipment.

The purchases will update the department's equipment, as well as provide new pieces. "There are a lot of cities and towns that are really desperate for equipment," says Murnane.

If so, why should Andover receive so much grant money? It already gets one of the biggest chunks of the town's operating budget.

"Our turnout gear is getting worn and torn, and we're fortunate we have the backing of the selectmen and Finance Committee," says Murnane,



File photo

Fire Lt. Robert Stabile shows off one of the town's first thermal imaging cameras. Because Andover already has such cameras, a state grant is allowing it to purchase different equipment.



File photo

Thermal imaging cameras allow firefighters to "see" bodies in dark or smoky rooms.

Our Wine Buyer's Weekly Wine Pick ...

1996

Jacques de la Jugie

Minervois

\$6⁹⁹

ORIGIN: Minervois, France

GRAPE VARIETIES: Carignan/Grenache

STYLE: Dry, Fruity red

WINE BUYER'S NOTES: Little wines like this one challenge consumers and merchants alike. There's no compelling story. Its geographic origin is too obscure to matter. The grape varieties cannot be considered remotely classic.

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Expansion bids \$2.9 million over

Technical school eyes cuts to over-budget job

By Rebecca Piro

Greater Lawrence Technical School will tighten its belt to make up the \$2.9 million shortfall between its budget and its lowest construction bid.

GLTS awarded its expansion project contract Tuesday night to lowest bidder TLT Construction for \$41.9 million — almost \$3 million more than the \$40 million GLTS originally budgeted for construction. The school sent out for bids a second time six weeks ago after the first round came in about 10 percent higher than the budget, says Charlie Fox, assistant superintendent of administration and finance.

Unless the technical school's school committee decides to ask its communities for more money, the cost of the project must stay within the original \$51 million, which includes the construction budget, design and architectural fees, the cost to furnish the building and a contingency fund, says Fox.

The \$51 million project will relocate the culinary arts department and the dining room to the front of the building, joined by the cosmetology program, and will allow for more room for biotechnology and telecommunications courses. Joe Gleason, Andover representative to the GLTS school committee — made up of representatives from all the communities in the GLTS district — says GLTS won't spend more than its allotted \$51 million.

"We already went back to the communities once," says Gleason, referring to when the school committee got approval from the communities to increase its project



Photo by Tim Jean

Lofty aim — Greater Lawrence Technical School wants to expand to better serve pupils including carpentry student Johnny Guillermo, who worked Tuesday on the roof of an Andover home.

budget from \$46 million to \$51 million. "We've already upped it five million and we haven't put a shovel in the dirt yet."

The state Department of Education will reimburse GLTS for up to 85 percent of the project cost, says Fox. The remainder is paid by communities within the school district over a period of 20 years, in relation to their enrollment at the school. The bulk of that amount is borne by Lawrence, because Lawrence students make up about 80 percent of the enrollment, Fox says. Andover will likely pay about 2 percent of the cost, since only 28 students from Andover were enrolled at GLTS last year.

The building sub-committee will discuss ways to cut the project design to fit the budget. The cuts will likely eliminate some sports improvements, says Gleason.

Vacirca had hoped that the project would break ground in early spring, with 300 freshmen starting their second semester in January at a rented satellite location. Now, Vacirca says the school will save between \$400,000 and \$600,000 per year for all three years of the project by housing students in modular classrooms instead, starting next September. That money, however, is separate from the \$51 million budget. The ground-breaking should happen before the end of the school year, he adds.



Photo by Tim Jean

Cuts coming — Like student Mike Eaton with this tubing, GLTS officials will soon need to cut something from the proposed construction plan.

Town to pick up storm debris

To help residents clean up after the winter storms, the Department of Public Works will make a special pick-up for fallen tree limbs and branches starting Monday, April 23 at 8 a.m.

The trucks will pick up branches that are larger than one inch in diameter and longer than three feet, says DPW Director Jack Petkus. They will

not pick up lumber, twigs or garbage.

DPW requests that residents leave their branches in a large pile by the curb, with the stumps facing towards the street. There will be no call-backs, Petkus says. The trucks will continue pick-ups that week until they have driven down every street in town.

Yard sale benefits Avon walkathon

An Abbott Street yard sale being held on Saturday, April 7 benefits the upcoming Avon 3-Day walkathon fundraiser for breast cancer research.

Fifteen Andover women are taking part in the walkathon and they are looking to raise money through the yard sale. The sale is happening at 43 Abbott St. For information, call Deb Olander at 978-470-2826.

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131CT FVS	\$9900
136CT FVS	\$15,000
137CT GVS	\$15,000
138CT FVS	\$10,000
138CT FVS	\$16,000
201CT GVS	\$17,000
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104CT GVS	\$6900
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Selectmen vote in smoking section

(Continued from page 1)

Tuesday, March 27, explained why he did not support Hess' motion.

"I support the portion of this article that deals with the

sale (of tobacco) to minors, and I have a problem with that being combined with the restaurant portion of the article," Hender said, an opinion similar to that expressed by

former Selectman Lori Becker. "I would feel far better if this had been put into two separate articles," he added.

Both Selectmen Ted Teichert and Mary French agreed that they could not support an article that punishes restaurant owners who have struggled to meet the variance by taking it away from them. Major also stated that he would vote against Hess' motion.

"The difficulty I have is that (a complete ban) does reach into overgoverning the private sector," said Major. "People do have the opportunity to decide whether they want to go into a business."

When Hess' motion to vote to recommend approval for the article failed 4-1, the selectmen voted on an amendment to the article, which deleted the section dealing with the restaurant variance. It passed 4-1, with Hess opposed.

Health Director Everett Penney said afterwards that he is not surprised the selectmen



Photo by Tim Jean

Selectmen believe restaurant and bars should be allowed to keep their separate smoking areas.

opposed the smoking ban.

"We still think it is the correct thing to do from the public health point of view, and we will still present the article as is," he said. "Our job is simply to put it before the public and let the assembly decide what they prefer for the town of Andover."

Penney says that the Board of Health told restaurant owners from the beginning that the 1994 Smoking Bylaw that allowed variances was really

one step closer to making Andover 100-percent smoke-free. While he is unsure whether the Board of Health will bring back the article if it does not pass this year, he does not think he will need to do so.

"I think the selectmen's opinion is a very valued and important part of the decision-making process," he said. "However, I think there's a greater sentiment among the general public today to go smoke free."

Town plans for April, the state's Public Health Month

April is "Public Health Month" in Massachusetts and Andover's Health Department is celebrating with a special event during each week.

During this week, there is a mercury-thermometer exchange. Residents will receive a new digital thermometer free in exchange for each mercury thermometer turned in. The EPA has identified discarded thermometers as the single highest contributor of mercury to the municipal solid waste stream, according to Everett Penney, health director.

"Mercury is neurotoxin which can cause permanent damage to the brain and kidneys. Each mercury thermometer contains seven grams of mercury.

This program can have significant impact on improving public health by helping to reduce mercury levels in the environment," he said.

During the second week of April, there will be a colorectal screening, co-sponsored by Holy Family Hospital. During the third week, the health department will present a seminar on food safety in its residential kitchen. The department says its push at Town Meeting on April 23 and 24 to strengthen the town's smoking bylaw by eliminating smoking variances in restaurants and bars will wrap up its month-long effort. For information, call the Andover Health Department at 978-623-8295.

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Town stats

Residents who have not returned their census form should do so, urges the town clerk. The census is important for school-enrollment planning, the voting list, and the maintenance of updated statistics. The current population count is the basis for allocation of state and federal funds.

Call the town clerk's office for more information at 978-623-8200.

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Two middle school students travel to Geographic Bee A worldly pair

By Adam Groff

Urdu and English are the principal languages of what Asian country?

The answer is Pakistan — and a pair of Andover middle-school students will have to know such things this Friday when they face competition from around the state as part of the 13th annual National Geographic Bee at Clark University in Worcester.

Fortunately, students Karl Novick of West Middle School and Sasha Seletsky of Doherty have already shown their facility with facts like this by winning geography bees in their respective schools. If one of them wins Friday's state competition against 98

other Massachusetts students, he will go on to the national finals in Washington, D.C. on May 22 and 23. There, they'll answer questions from *Jeopardy!* TV quiz show host Alex Trebek, and the lucky winner will net \$25,000 in college scholarship money.

So how did these students get to be budding young geographers?

"It was one of those fluky things," said Susie Novick of Heritage Lane of her son's performance. "He's a good overall student, and he's an avid reader. He loves to read."

Karl Novick is notable for being in the competition as a sixth grader: he won the schoolwide competition at West Middle, and although the competition is open to students in grades four through eight, only 15 of the 100 state qualifiers are in grades below seven.

"It was definitely great, because I didn't really expect to win," said Karl. "It's my first year at the school, and I expected all the older kids to be a lot better."

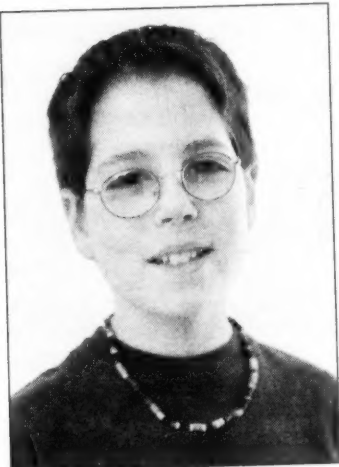
"We just said to have a good time, and whatever happens, we're proud of him," said his mother.

Sasha Seletsky of Doherty, aside from being in eighth

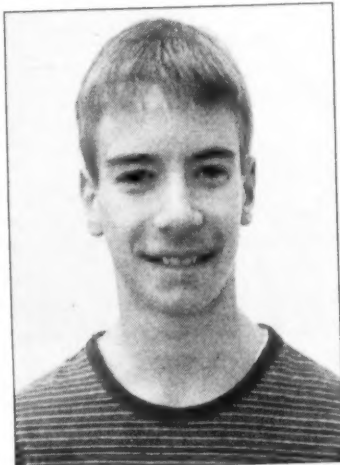
grade, has another advantage: he was born in Russia, and moved with his parents and twin brother Oleg to Switzerland, then to South Carolina, then to Andover.

"We like to travel a lot," said his mother, Elena Seletsky of Delphi Circle. "Trips to Florida, Niagara Falls, all the national parks. So this is kind of practical experience. And we all like geography and history."

The National Geographic Society began its annual bee in 1989 to try to reinvigorate interest in geography as an academic subject. Now the bee attracts around 5 million students a year, according to the society.



From West, Karl Novick



Doherty's Sasha Seletsky

Can bus save crunch at 'T' lot?

By Rebecca Piro

Some commuters won't want to miss the bus from the Faith Lutheran Church parking lot on South Main Street to the Ballardvale train station in May — it's free.

Selectmen have agreed to run a trial Merrimack Valley Regional Transportation Authority shuttle, starting April 30, between the church parking lot and the train station, free of charge. Approximately 50 drivers can park near the church and hop the bus to the train station, leaving their vehicles behind.

The shuttle plan is an attempt to ease the parking congestion at Ballardvale after selectmen rejected the MVRTA's proposal to expand the parking there last fall. Creating more parking would only bring in more vehicles from out of town, selectmen had argued.

Last November, Selectmen Chairman Brian Major suggested transporting commuters from the existing Faith Lutheran Church lot.



Photo by Tim Jean

Coming soon — a free bus to Ballardvale T station.

MVRTA administrator Joe Costanzo worked with Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski to formulate a shuttle route to meet the majority of commuters' needs.

The shuttle will deliver commuters to Ballardvale five days a week to meet three morning peak-time trains — 7:15, 7:46 and 9:03 a.m. It will pick commuters up from the station from four afternoon peak-hour trains — 5:08, 5:56, 6:36 and 7 p.m.

The cost to the town is \$4,752 until July 1, when

MVRTA will refigure costs for fiscal year 2002 if the town wants to continue with the service. On a yearly basis, the service could cost the town around \$32,000.

Selectmen can opt to charge commuters \$1 for the round trip, to compensate for the cost, says Costanzo. They can also opt to continue the shuttle service free of charge to commuters, and let taxpayers shoulder the entire cost.

Selectmen will revisit the shuttle plan following the one-month trial period.

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Townsmen EDITORIALS

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Lay out all the facts

Andover officials agree on one thing: Andover will have to approve an override in calendar year 2002 to open two new schools and also maintain its current services. So, does it make sense for the town to add even more to the existing school budget this year – especially when it will do so with the very money it planned to set aside to open the new schools?

This is the question the town – and, most importantly, Town Meeting voters – must answer later this month. Certainly, there will be much debate about the value of adding positions this year that the town will likely cut next year if an override is not approved.

But officials should all agree on this: They need to let people know this year not only how the needs of the school system are rising, but how residents' tax bills will soon be increasing – even without the new positions sought by the schools.

Already hard hit, taxpayers are set to feel the effects of the increasing budgets, and the debt payments for the safety center and two new schools. Residents ought to know just how much of an increase they are already due to fund over the next several years as a result of all the projects they approved during the '90s. Sewer users should also find out how the massive sewer expansion will soon affect their wallets.

If voters are given this information, they'll be able to make the informed decisions that keep Town Meeting viable as a governmental body. Working within a broader financial context, residents will decide which of the items at Town Meeting are priorities, and which they simply cannot afford.

Letters policy

The *Townsmen* accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters must be typed, and no longer than two, double-spaced pages. All letter writers must include an address and phone number with the letter. The phone number will not be published. The paper reserves the right to edit letters at its discretion. Reasons for editing include editing for length, clarity and style.

Letters should be received by the *Townsmen* by Monday at 5 p.m. for consideration in that week's paper. They may be sent by mail, fax or e-mail. As a general rule, the paper does not publish anonymous letters or thank you letters.

It also does not publish letters for candidates in the issue prior to an election. It will publish letters about Town Meeting articles in issues published prior to Town Meeting.

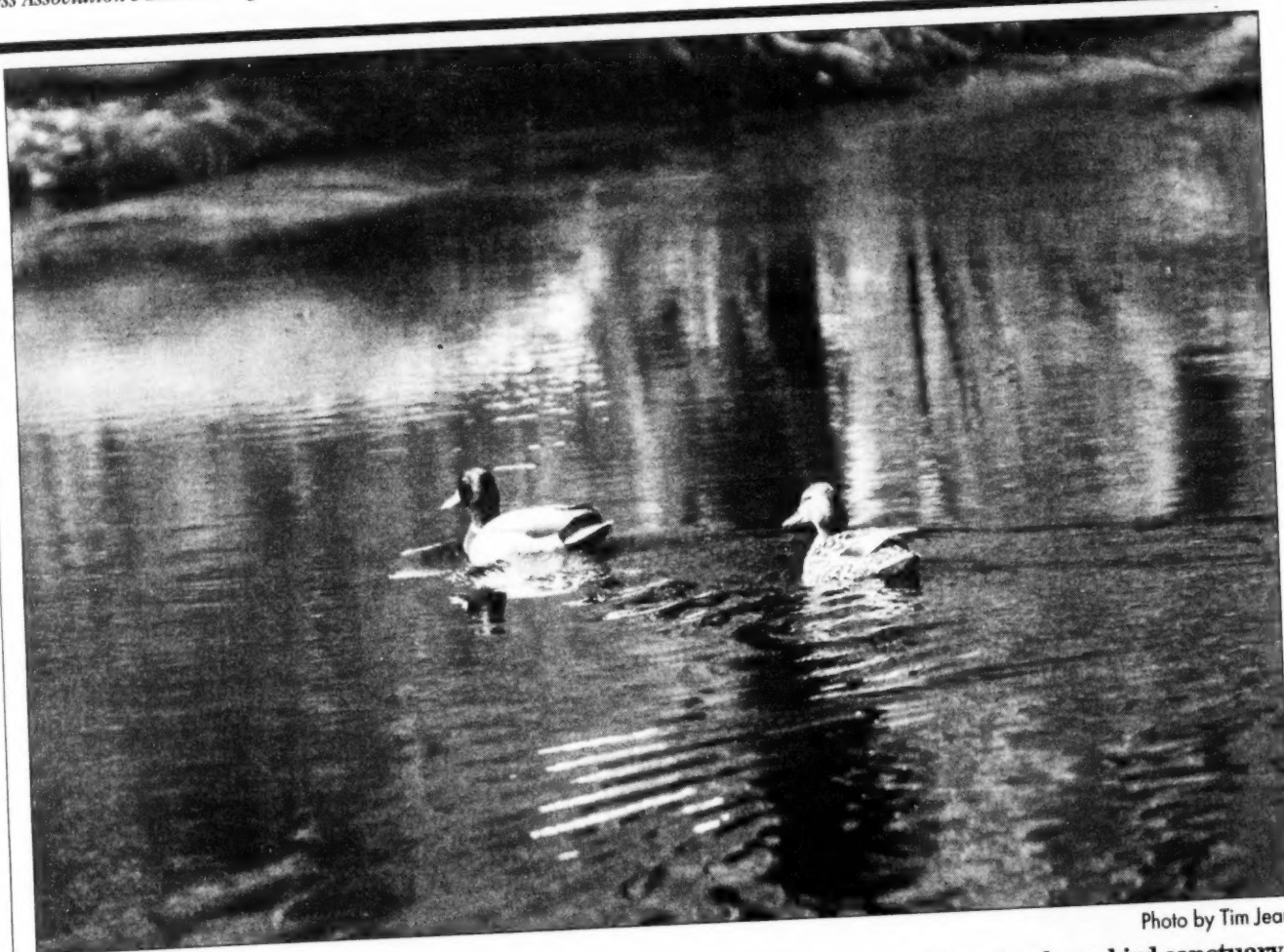
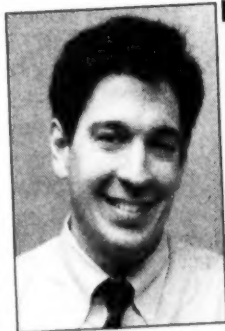


Photo by Tim Jean

A pair of ducks enjoyed the warmer weather Tuesday in water near the Phillips Academy bird sanctuary.

Beacon of hope in tough budget waters



Neil Fater

Doherty Middle School teacher Sue Hutchinson is one of those teachers who always does a little extra.

She organized the recent Career Day that brought 35 professionals – from FBI agents to veterinarians – into the schools.

She's on the interviewing committee that selects new teachers. She helps edit the school newsletters. Currently, she's helping to coordinate the MCAS testing that will take place in close to 30 classrooms, making sure all the booklets are in place and the No. 2 pencils are sharpened and ready. She even meets with other teachers' students to talk about the courses they'll take when they move up to Andover High.

So you might say Hutchinson is a special teacher. You'd be wrong. She's a special *retired* teacher.

Hutchinson retired from the English department two years ago.

At a time when the town budget – particularly the school portion of it – is going through the roof, taxpayers have a right to grumble. They should ask why the overall budget has risen above \$90 million, whether firefighters should have a contract that pays them to sleep and why several town employees are given their own cars. But it's nice to know there are some people like Hutchinson out there, stretching the tax dollar.

This is not to say that Hutchinson isn't paid for her time. Hutchinson is paid to work somewhere around 10 hours per week as part of the DARE program, which brings police officers into the school to talk to kids.

Does the town get 10 hours of work out of her? "Oh, no," says Principal Floyd McManus. "Maybe 35 hours is more like it."

In fact, regarding a number of projects, McManus says that without Hutchinson, "they wouldn't get done."

"Would we be able to have Career Day? I'm not sure. It would be difficult," he says.

The school used to hire an outside worker to come in and run the program. But the quality – and the energy level – has increased tremendous-

ly with Hutchinson on the case.

"We've gone from a 'C' to an 'A.' Not only do we not have to hire someone to do it, but we get a better job," says McManus.

"Sue Hutchinson has traveled as a chaperone on a couple of trips to Europe with me," says teacher John Givens. "She wanted to do whatever the rest of the group was doing. Whether it meant climbing to the top of a cathedral or climbing to the top of a mountain, she was ready to do it."

A taskmaster who challenged most of her students, Hutchinson also takes the time to offer special attention to students who might be left alone by less involved teachers.

"She refers to them as her poochies," says Givens. "A poochie is maybe a student who is having difficulty, but she cares a lot about them. She watches over and takes care of them and does it in a very kind way."

"For programs to work, you need someone at the top who believes in them and is willing to be a leader, and she's that person," says Givens.

If only there were more like her.

Neil Fater is editor of the Andover Townsmen. He can be reached at nfater@andovertownsmen.com.

Letters

Council member seeks new senior center plan

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I am an eight-year member and former chairperson of the Council on Aging, and those who know me are aware of my long-standing interests and efforts to build a new senior center. What I say below are my personal beliefs and in no way represent the position of the Council.

Fundraising for the new senior center has been disappointingly slow. I believe this is due, in part, to the reluctance of potential donors to give money to a site which will revert to a private enterprise in time.

When I joined the Council in 1993 we had hoped that we could have a new center, or at least broken ground for one in time for our 350th anniversary celebration in 1996. Here it is 2001 and we still are not there. In that time the senior center has grown with new programs and events, and many new attendees. I am certain it is well thought of by the community at large.

New fundraisers have been engaged. The fundraisers have said that they cannot raise the necessary funds alone. It has been proposed in warrant Article 24, to be considered at the next town Meeting, that the town add \$2 million in the form of a challenge grant as additional funding to the Will Hall project.

I am opposed to this for two reasons:

First, I do not believe that the town should contribute money to constructing a senior center on land which they do not own, or have control of in the form of an option to buy, or can control the destiny of by some other means. A senior center is a specialized facility, and, like a school, should be a permanent resource for the community. It is not like leasing office space or warehouse space, or even temporary classroom space. I feel strongly that it is not right to postpone our problems to be solved by future generations. It is not right for the town to build and maintain a facility and then turn it over to a private institution for its use at the end of the lease. If it is difficult to identify an available site today it certainly won't be any easier 30 years from now.

Second, I believe the warrant article is a knee-jerk reaction without proper consideration for the budgetary process or funding requirements. It is not part of the Capital Improvement Plan. It is well-meaning but poorly thought out, and comes at a time when the economy is slowing and funding is tight.

The seniors have always felt that if they could raise the money privately it would relieve the taxpayers of an additional burden. It now appears that this is not possible. It's time to step back and reassess the situation. We need a new senior center more than ever, and we need a youth center, too. I would like the town to step forward and define what needs to be done for both, plan and fund it in a considered and timely manner.

Martin Epstein

Sellers family has not seen 'one scintilla of evidence' of turtles on land

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I thought it about time that our family reply to some of the articles printed in the *Townsmen*. In addition, I would like to give your readers some background into the history of this property on Highland Road.

In a recent article, your freelance writer referred to the last owner of the property as Ruth Mae Sellers ("State creates new, acres-large turtle habitat," *Townsmen*, March 29). This is incorrect. My aunt, Ruth S. Hooper, was the last of 10 children born to Mabel E. Sellers. She, along with her siblings, was granted life-tenancy on the death of her mother in 1920. The property was left to the issue of Mabel's children, upon the death of the last child of Mabel. Ruth Hooper passed away in August, 1999, at the age of 98, ending the life-tenancy.

My grandmother purchased approximately 40 acres of land in 1896, using money loaned by her mother. The land was then deeded back to her mother upon whose death the 40 acres were to be shared by her two daughters, Mabel and her sister Mary. In 1915, this land was partitioned, and Mary eventually sold her share. Most of that property is now owned by Phillips Academy. Mabel raised her family on her share, running a small farm selling milk. She passed away of cancer at a very young age, leaving her family to care for the property. Over the past 80 years the property has stayed the same, while the family continued to pay the taxes on the land as they were assessed. Many people have commented about how beautiful the property was and some even use it as their private walking reserve. Meanwhile the area around it has changed significantly.

In the 1930s, the bypass, Route 125 was built, dividing the land, and taking about one acre. In the 1950s, the state closed

our access to either side of our property on the bypass and paid us \$50 for the taking, leaving us with 5.5 acres of land on one side with no access, and about 17 acres with frontage on Highland Road. Gradually, properties were purchased and changed in the vicinity. The Phillips bird sanctuary was built and two houses across the street were moved. The beautiful apple orchard owned by Jim Downing was turned into two housing developments, including Downing Street, Kathleen Drive and Marie Drive. Heather Drive was created, yet never accepted by the town. Homes were built on Woodland Road after the 1960s. All of this development has occurred without any opposition from the Sellers family.

Now that the property has to be split among 11 heirs, only one of whom lives in Andover, we came to the decision that the property had to be sold. Our attorney entertained bids for the property last May. A local conservation group, with backing from a state-wide land group, made a bid which was less than half what the highest bid was. I had promised them that, if their bid was close, I would consider them more closely. But, as an executor of my grandmother's estate, I have a responsibility to the other heirs to seek the most return on their inheritance. And, may I point out that none of these 11 heirs are young people. In fact, four of them are in their 70s and waited for many years to enjoy what their grandmother left to them.

Now, since the conservation bid was lost, some people have taken it upon themselves to try and block the sale and use of this land. They have been quoted in the papers as saying that the land is mostly wet. This is a complete misstatement. We do recognize that some wetlands do exist, but not to that extent. I have spent many hours on this property

over my lifetime, and dispute that the property has wetlands significant enough to interfere with the creation of a modest, attractive subdivision of quality homes on this land.

As far as the existence of turtles on the property is concerned, we have yet to see one scintilla of evidence of them. Since the owners of the property were not informed by either those seeking their existence or the state department that sees to their protection, we do not know where this search took place, when it took place, or if it took place. In fact, we may have great difficulty even in verifying this sighting, because of a quirk in the public records disclosure law, which reads as follows:

Records of the division of fisheries and wildlife in the department of fisheries, wildlife and recreational vehicles known as the Massachusetts natural heritage program data base shall not (emphasis supplied) be public records; provided, however, that they shall be open for inspection by agents of the commonwealth and the federal government for the purposes of protecting and preserving species and subspecies of nongame wildlife and indigenous plants. Except as otherwise determined by the administrator of the said data base, site-specific rare species information shall be released only upon the receipt of a statement, in writing, by the recipient that he shall keep such information confidential.

— Mass. General Laws, Ch. 66, Sect. 1 7(D)

No one has any intention of developing wetlands. As I have tried to point out, our family has been sensitive to the land and the area surrounding it for over 100 years. Now that we are faced with the fact that the land must be sold, others cannot and will not be sensitive to our situation and will seek any means to block the sale of this land. People must live with their own consciences.

James R. Sellers
40 York St.

Dreams of fields

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Youth sports leaders, selectmen, and the Conservation Commission all agree: It's time to build badly needed playing fields at the Essex Gravel Pit at Rec Park.

Youth sports has pledged \$500,000 towards the \$1.1 million project cost. Minimal plant and wildlife habitat will be disrupted in the construction of five acres of grassy space on the existing sand and stones. The gravel pit in its present state is a town eyesore. The new access road will enable police to make the area safe and secure from off-road motorized vehicles, improving use of the entire Rec Park trail network for walkers. I urge all Andover voters to come to Town Meeting on Monday, April 23, and vote for Article 10 for playing fields, and against private Article 11.

Rich Nill
9 Haskell Road

A call to arms against proposed development

Editor, *Townsmen*:

To Residents of the Stevens Street neighborhood:

The subdivision plan entitled Casimere Extension was to come before the Planning Board at a meeting scheduled for March 27. This public hearing, however, was moved up to Monday, March 26, without notice to the abutters. Since only one abutter was present, a vote was not taken and the hearing was continued until Tuesday, April 10, at 7 p.m. at Town Offices on Bartlet Street.

I urge all the residents of this neighborhood — indeed, anyone who uses Stevens Street — and those who will inevitably be affected by issues of congestion, increased traffic, drainage, overcrowding, loss of the last remaining strip of green space and quality of

life, to attend the meeting on April 10. Whether or not they choose to address the Planning Board, they can show their support by joining those of us who have many concerns about this proposed development.

Frances J. Jennings
21 Beech Circle

Paper should not endorse, just thank

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I waited a week to see if it felt better — and it doesn't. Last year was the first time in my memory, which though incomplete goes back to the end of 1955, that the *Andover Townsmen* editors endorsed candidates in a town election. I considered it wrong then, and I found it seriously inappropriate again this year for the following reasons:

1. It is (perhaps) appropriate for the

(Continued on page 10)

LETTERS

(Continued from page 9)

editors of a weekly newspaper in a small community to offer a presumably informed opinion on issues of local interest. In the case of local elections, however, the newspaper, especially one that enjoys a local monopoly, is just one voice. It should restrict itself to thanking the candidates for stepping forward and by doing its best to provide adequate information for the voters to make their own informed choice.

In the interests of full disclosure – and to further illustrate my point – I mention the following: One of the *Townsmen's* endorsements last year was for another candidate for the very low-profile office I was a candidate for. My biography, as published in the *Townsmen*, was badly mangled resulting in both a number of factual errors and omission of considerable experience appropriate to the office I sought. The *Townsmen* endorsement for the other candidate was based largely on my lack of experience.

The paper's reliability in its news reports becomes suspect and not to be trusted – a sad situation for a community dependent on this single source for much of its information about community affairs.

2. This year's editorial was reflective of both No. 1 above and No. 3 below – it was tortured, difficult to follow and, reading between the lines, clearly a cynical protection of the paper's own turf: the paper's relations with the winners in the only contested race were best assured by not seeming to choose

between the two non-incumbents, at least one of whom was going to prevail. It is wrong to provide the public with unreliable and possibly inaccurate guidance in an area where they are least likely to be able to become more informed.

3. I discussed this issue with the former editor of a town weekly shortly after last year's *Townsmen* endorsements and, in addition to basically agreeing with me on the principle that such endorsements are not appropriate, she also had another reason for not endorsing candidates in local elections – she was sure that she would not have been the one to make the decision and sure also that the decision would have been neither objective nor non-partisan – and that that would surely not have been revealed by the editors.

Michael Frishman
230 Andover St.

(Editor's note: The *Townsmen* endorsed candidates in the town elections of 1997, 1998, 2000 and 2001.)

Teachers union head wants more for schools

Editor, *Townsmen*:

Dr. Claudia Bach, our superintendent of schools, should be congratulated for bringing forward an immutable fact: the Andover Public Schools will not be able to continue to provide a high quality education for children unless substantially more money is devoted to instruction.

Andover does have a very good school

system. It is blessed with numerous attributes including: dedicated and effective teachers, skilled administrators, bright and motivated students and supportive parents. Yet the community, as Dr. Bach courageously points out, needs to invest in such issues as reducing class size at the high school and providing staff for a new elementary and a new middle school. We currently have several classes at Andover High School that are pushing the upper limits to almost 30 students in a room. This overcrowding directly impacts learning. Teachers are unable to provide the individualized attention needed for writing conferences, laboratory work in the sciences, etc. Also, the myriad of special-education services required by law can only continue to be met if we provide additional staff. In the areas of administrative and support services the Andover schools are currently significantly understaffed.

A major reason for these conditions is that Andover tends to spend substantially less on education than do the communities to which we wish to compare ourselves. Allow me to cite a few examples of the compelling differences between Andover and comparable communities in order to illustrate my point. According to the Massachusetts Department of Education (FY '99, which are the most recent figures available), Andover spends \$6,610 per pupil, whereas Lexington has a per pupil rate of \$8,294, and Newton allocates \$8,982.

I am sure that you will concur that these conditions need improvement. Public schools are essential to our economic and social well-being. As our economy continues to move into a

knowledge-based mode, our public schools are the engine that prepares us for the 21st Century. The quality of our educational system is directly linked to our community life. Because of this social truth, we urge you to support higher funding for our schools.

Tom Meyers, president
Andover Education Association
(AEA is the Andover teachers' union.)

Boards must speak for residents, not developer

Editor, *Townsmen*:

We attended the second public hearing by the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on AvalonBay's application for a comprehensive permit to develop a high-density apartment complex on River Road on Monday, March 26. Like many of the 100 or so residents in attendance, we left that hearing frustrated and confused.

According to the "Comprehensive Permit Law Fact Sheet" published by the Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD), the ZBA is responsible for seeking recommendations from other local boards (Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, Department of Public Works, Conservation Commission, fire, police departments, etc.). To date, the ZBA has not received any official feedback from these other boards. Most disturbing, the members do not seem to feel that it is their responsibility to solicit this critical input! If it's not their responsibility, then whose is it? (According to the DHCD, the ZBA should actually request the appearance

(Continued on page 32)

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Education

MCAS + block scheduling = more top math scorers at AHS

By Judy Wakefield

Question: Find the smallest prime that is the 5th term of an increasing arithmetic sequence, all four preceding terms also being prime.

Say what? you ask.

Well, that's the first question on this year's American Invitational Math Examination — and many Andover High students didn't sweat over its complexity.

In fact, Andover High recently sent 170 advanced math students to the Association of American High School Mathematics Competition and many answered several similar questions correctly. Eleven of them scored highly enough on the test to move on to the final competition, held March 27 and 29 at Phillips Academy.

They are: Andrew Timko, Nicholas Shade, James Sherman, James Kim, Andrew Ong, Melanie Shaw, Brian Walker, Tom Huang, Mihir Kedia, Philip Wang, and Alex Dezieck.

In addition, Ong, Timko, and Shade scored highly enough on another tough math test — the state's math Olympiad exam — to qualify for that final round of competition. That test was also held last week at Phillips Academy.

Two tough math tests with just one day off in between may sound overwhelming, but it was not a problem for these guys, according to Donna Pappalardo, math program adviser at AHS.

"They love the competition and we are very proud of them and all of our finalists," she said, noting where the three AHS finalists rank among Massachusetts' top math students.

Ong ranks 60th in the state, Timko ranks 96th, and Shade ranks 101st, based on the Olympiad scores.

The preliminary round of the Olympiad test attracted 3,606 top math high school students from around the state. It was held last October and more than 100 participants were from Andover High.

Pappalardo said when it comes to math-test scores, the numbers are adding up. The first time AHS participated in the AIME competition, there were two finalists; last year there were four; now there are 11.

She said block scheduling and MCAS test scores are the components of the winning equation. "Our math curriculum has improved," she said. "With our block scheduling, we have more planning time and kids are taking more math classes."

Most Advanced Placement-level kids are taking two math courses per year, such as geometry or advanced algebra and trigonometry during the first semester and introduction to math analysis during the second semester. "You take



Photo by Tim Jean

Figuring prominently — The 11 students who qualified for last week's final math competition at Phillips Academy (in no particular order) are Andrew Timko, Nicholas Shade, James Sherman, James Kim, Andrew Ong, Melanie Shaw, Brian Walker, Tom Huang, Mihir Kedia, Philip Wang, and Alex Dezieck. Donna Pappalardo (front, left), math program adviser at AHS, expects to learn how the students fared in several weeks.

more math with block scheduling, so the kids who want a lot of math are getting it," Pappalardo said.

Plus, her math team is using results from 10th-grade MCAS test scores to rewrite the curriculum.

"We find the weaknesses

and do an end-of-course assessment which benefits the kids," Pappalardo said.

For those wondering where the top AHS female math students are, Pappalardo said AHS advanced math classes are evenly split between the girls and boys. The girls sim-

ply don't like the competitiveness of these state-wide math tests, she said. The girls certainly have several mentors. Fifty percent of the math faculty at AHS is female.

The answer to the question at the beginning of this story is 29.

Zeroing in on its goals, task force drops three options

By Adam Groff

The March 28 meeting of the Redistricting Task Force, its last before that body presented its options at a townwide forum last night after *Townsmen* presstime, was free of much of the contention that has characterized the biweekly meetings for the past six months.

"It was almost eerily calm," said School Committee representative Gerry Gustus. At past meetings, parents have jumped at the chance to vocalize their concerns about the possible dislocation of their children in the imminent population shuffles necessary to fill the two new schools opening in the fall of 2002.

It was as though, after 11 meetings, everything had been

said.

"I think people are waiting for the forum," said Cricket Circle resident Tina Conlon.

At last Wednesday's meeting, the task force decided to drop three of its options, two for the elementary schools and one for the middle schools.

This leaves three elementary- and three middle-school options that the task force was to present at the townwide meeting yesterday, Wednesday, April 4, and to the School Committee on Tuesday, April 10.

Gustus said the deleted elementary options were the first two the group devised, before complete enrollment projections were available.

When complete data became

available, said Gustus, "the numbers were just all over the place, and then they didn't translate well with the middle schools."

Of the rejected middle-school option, he said, "We had a really high and ugly incidence of crossover."

"Crossover" refers to small groups of students being split off from the rest of their class to attend a different school. This will happen to some degree in every option, but the task force, with the continuing urgings of parents, has sought to minimize this effect.

"I'm not happy with every single plan, but I'm happy with the way they've arrived at them," said Conlon, who has attended all but one task force

meeting. "I think the task force has done a fantastic job trying to meet the goals they stated at the beginning."

Conlon has three children attending Sanborn Elementary, and a preschooler headed there next year. They have been in the West Middle School district, but one of the current three redistricting options would have them going instead to the new middle school, temporarily dubbed "Cross," because it is located at Cross Street and High Plain Road.

"If we were to go to Cross, I feel comfortable that the faculty and the School Committee will concentrate on that transitioning time," said Conlon. "There's going to be a lot of

faculty shifting, so we're going to be seeing some familiar faces at the new school."

Last night, after *Townsmen* presstime, the task force gave a public presentation at Doherty Middle School auditorium, from 7 to 10 p.m., with time for public comment.

Members of the School Committee were expected to attend.

The task force will meet one last time, on Monday, April 9, to compile a list of advantages and disadvantages for each option before presenting them all to the School Committee on Tuesday, April 10.

The School Committee will meet again on May 8 to make the final decisions about which students will go to which schools in 2002.

Like this winter, the school year just won't quit

Waiver pursued to excuse Shawsheen students from going to school a day longer than everyone else

By Judy Wakefield

The winter of 2001 could be dubbed the winter that just won't quit.

Soon, Andover school kids will be saying the same about the school year.

For the first time in a long time, Andover used five snow days this school year. That means schools are closing almost 10 days later than they did last

year. The last day of school is Monday, June 25, which will be a half-day. Summer vacation for teachers doesn't begin until June 27. Their last day of work is Tuesday, June 26.

At Shawsheen School, parents are wondering if their kids will have to go even longer because of the Friday, March 23 rain storm. Theirs was the only school in town that was closed that day because the storm knocked out power and caused flooding.

Superintendent of Schools Claudia Bach is looking into getting a waiver from the state Department of Education so that those students won't have to make up that day.

"We just don't know yet," Shawsheen principal Brenda O'Brien said. "We haven't officially heard if we have to make it up or not."

School districts typically apply for waivers when emergency situations force school officials to cancel school.

Around town, many local families are changing summer camp and vacation plans because school is being held longer than expected.

"Some families had plans made and there are conflicts, but they understand it was unavoidable. The superintendent did the right thing (when she called off school because of the snow)," said Norma Villarreal, who heads up the

PTO at Doherty Middle School and also has a child at South School.

At Kid's Club (a before- and after-school program) and SHED (an extended-day program for kindergartners), staffers are losing a vacation day. Director Bette Lynch said the week of June 25 was supposed to be a break for staffers.

"Our summer staff is our school-year staff and we always close down the week after school ends to give them a vacation," Lynch said noting that Kid's Club and SHED will be open on June 25. The good news for parents is that the situation will not affect the summer program, Camp Adventure. It will start as planned, Monday, July 2.

SCHOOL TALK



Thomas Shannon, a pilot with Northwest Airlines, shows students where he's flown during the last 24 years.

Photo by Tim Jean

Doherty Middle School held its annual Career Day for eighth-graders on March 22.

Twenty-seven job areas were represented by enthusiastic presenters. More than half of these were parents of present Doherty eighth-graders.

The speakers and their respective professions were: Theresa Saia, pediatric nurse practitioner; Sally Wallace, lawyer; Dr. Boris Seletsky, medical research; Sgt. Barbara Connolly and Officer Dennis Lane, police department; Dr. Richard Lindsay, veterinarian; Dr. Calvin Perry, optometrist; Denise Doherty, Elaine Jefferson, and Susan Durkin, Federal Bureau of Investigation; Jefferson Yurkus, retail store manager; Michael Cole, manufacturing and technology; Dr. Paul Conlin, physician; Thomas Shannon, pilot with Northwest Airlines; Thomas Spang, sales manager; Marcia Jacobs, product manager; Debbie Hughes, psychiatric social worker; Sue Yurkus, nail technician; James and Carol Hackett, advertising and marketing; Judith Yost, nurse surgical assistant; Todd Pomerleau,

Tara Kavanaugh, and Jeff Wells, fire department; Neil Fater, editor of the *Townsmen*; Bill Donelan, business systems sales; Dr. Michael Levy, psychologist; Steve Golden, forester with National Park Service; Paul Domigan, development engineering; Mark Efinger, drama coach and play director; Cindy Efinger, photographer; Jean Martin, interior design, kitchens; and Kevin Heelan, playwright and screenwriter.

Several students from Pike School distinguished themselves recently in the statewide Mathcounts competition at Wentworth Institute. The event was one in a progression of competitions sponsored by the Mathcounts Foundation for middle-school students across the country.

Students participating in the competition at this level had qualified by being high scorers first in their own schools and then at regional competitions. One hundred twenty-one youngsters from

(Continued on page 14)

PLEDGE FOR CANDY BACHNER

Many members of the Andover community were touched by Candy Bachner. A teacher for 30 years, she taught kindergarten students at Sanborn School for eight years until her death from ovarian cancer in January 1999. She was a dynamic and gifted teacher, respected colleague, tireless advocate, trusted friend and devoted mother and companion. She faced adversity with humor, courage and an unrelenting zest for life. Her memory has been honored often by all of those who knew her well or peripherally. We take pride to honor her once again.

Candy's daughter, Tara Bachner, will run in the Boston Marathon for the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in her mother's name on Monday, April 16th. Proceeds from Tara's pledges will go directly to Dana Farber for cancer research. We ask you to join us in support of Tara's effort in her mother's name.

Please pledge whatever you can. Make checks payable to: Dana Farber.
Mail or drop it at: Sanborn School, 90 Lovejoy Road, Andover, MA 01810.

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LUNCH MENUS

Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, April 9-12:

Elementary schools

Monday: Roast pork dinner, chocolate chip pancakes with hash browns, pizza stick with soft pretzel, salad, pineapple, pudding, and milk.

Tuesday: Baked macaroni and cheese, hot dog on a roll, toasted cheese sandwich with soup, peas, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Beef & cheese sub with salad, mozzarella sticks with salad, chicken nuggets, potato puffs, corn, cranberry sauce, and milk.

Thursday: Roast turkey with stuffing and gravy, french toast sticks with sausage, cheeseburger, potato, applesauce, cookie, and milk.

Friday: No SCHOOL.

Doherty Middle School

Monday: Two tacos, nachos with cheese sauce, pizza sticks with soft pretzel and salad, pineapple, pudding, and milk.

Tuesday: Baked macaroni and cheese, two hot dogs on a roll, two toasted cheese sandwiches with soup, peas, fruit, and milk.

Wednesday: Beef & cheese sub with salad, mozzarella sticks with salad, chicken nuggets with potato puffs, corn, cranberry sauce, and milk.

Thursday: Roast turkey with stuffing and gravy, Chicken McSchool, cheeseburger on a roll, potato, applesauce, and milk.

Friday: No SCHOOL.

Secondary schools

Monday: Roast pork dinner, stuffed crust pizza, spaghetti & meatballs, fruit, veggie, and milk.

Tuesday: Two hot dogs with fries, two bagel pizza, rotini with marinara sauce, fruit, veggie, and milk.

Wednesday: Raviolis with roll, stuffed crust pizza, pasta olio, fruit, veggie, and milk.

Thursday: Meatloaf with mashed potato, bakery pizza, spaghetti & meatballs, fruit, veggie, and milk.

Friday: No SCHOOL.

Menus subject to change.

Parents may pre-pay for lunches. Send check for \$7.50 per week to Andover Food Services.

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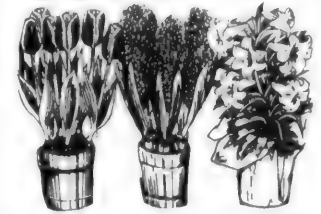
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**SCHOOL TALK**

(Continued from page 12)

21 schools participated in the state contest. Pike's four-member team was comprised of Andrew Hsiao, Justin Schaefer, Cassie Tognoni and Sam Weiss. Elias Feghali served as alternate.

Pike finished seventh in the competition and was the only school from Essex County to finish in the top 10. Seventh-grader Andrew Hsiao was ranked eighth in the list of 121 participants. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ruei-Hsin Hsiao of Osgood Street in Andover. Ranked 24th was eighth-grader Justin Schaefer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Schaefer of Eagle Drive in North Reading. Sam

Weiss, the son of Susan Bruce and Dr. Jonathan S. Weiss of Judson Road in Andover, ranked 38th. Ranked 65th was Cassie Tognoni, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Tognoni of Steeple Court of Andover.

Coaching the Pike team was math teacher Liza Waters.

Educational consultant Janis R. Baron recently attended the New England League of Middle Schools annual conference held in Providence, R.I.

Baron presented a one-hour session entitled "To Think or Not to Think - It's All in the Question."

Baron's goal was to provide an overview of the popular Talents Unlimited thinking skills model, used effectively in hundreds of Massachusetts schools. Baron is a national certified trainer for the model.

She is also the director of

Kaleidoscope, a local children's enrichment program.

Nancy Skaliotis of Abbott Street, a certified music therapist, chaired the recent music-therapy sessions

at the Massachusetts All-State Music Educator's Conference.

This was the sixth year that Skaliotis chaired, presided, and presented music therapy sessions at the conference.

Skaliotis is employed as a music therapist in the special education department of the Haverhill public schools. She received her master's degree in music therapy from New York University and completed post-graduate work and clinical training at Columbia University.

Skaliotis has worked as a consultant and clinician in public and private schools, hospitals, and early childhood settings for the past 25 years.

She is a founding member of the Massachusetts Music Therapy Alliance, where she was presented a collaboration award for bringing MMTA and MMEA together.

She is also a member of the American Association of Music Therapy, New England Association of Music Therapy, and Massachusetts Music Educator's Association.



Nancy Skaliotis

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News

Changeover at principal position in many Andover schools

Schools: Reitman won't return, Simms looking

By Adam Groff

Principal Jade Reitman of Sanborn School, who has been on a leave of absence this year, announced last week that she is officially resigning from her position

to devote more time to her family.

Reitman's announcement adds to an ongoing principal shakeup in Andover schools: Peter Anderson is in his first year as Andover High School principal; the school department is currently searching for a replacement for Norah McCarthy at Bancroft Elementary, as she has been selected to head the new middle school being constructed on Cross Street; McCarthy begins her job this July, and the following July, Principal Brenda O'Brien of Shawsheen School will take up the post at the new elementary school, necessitating her replacement at Shawsheen.

Furthermore, North Reading School Superintendent David

Troughton confirmed on Tuesday that Principal Vicki Simms of West Middle School is a finalist for the principal position at North Reading Middle School. This comes after Simms was a finalist, but not ultimately the choice, for principal at Dover-Sherborne Middle School last month.

If Simms leaves West Middle, it will mean that Andover is having to replace five out of eight principals within a three-year period. Simms did not return repeated calls from the *Townsmen*.

Reitman was principal at Sanborn for eight years, and at South Elementary for seven years before that. She came to Andover public schools from the Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District on Cape Cod.

"Raising a child and being a principal is very difficult," said Reitman last Thursday at her home in Boxford. Her

daughter is 8 years old. "I took the leave of absence to take a break and catch up from eight years of working around the clock while trying to keep a house and family."

Reitman has not abandoned academia, though. She said she has been doing some consulting work, as well as teaching a graduate-level writing course at Wheelock College in Boston.

Assistant Superintendent Marinel McGrath said that the school department is "ready to go" in finding a replacement for Reitman, because of its current effort to replace McCarthy.

McGrath said that an advertisement for the position at Sanborn was placed in the April 1 *Sunday Boston Globe*, and the deadline for applications is April 20. She said she expects the hiring process to be finished by the middle or end of May.



Next to go? — Vicki Simms appears to be ready to leave town, as she has been a finalist for two principal positions in other communities.



File photo

One and done — Former Sanborn Principal Jade Reitman says she will not return from her one-year leave of absence.

Selectmen to residents: Spend \$2 million more on Will Hall

By Rebecca Piro

When seniors ask Town Meeting for \$2 million to help renovate Will Hall, they'll have the selectmen's support behind them.

A handful of senior representatives stood and applauded the selectmen after the board voted to recommend approval of the article 3-2. Bob Zollner, seniors steering committee chairman, and Dick Bowen, proponent of the \$2 million article, thanked the officials for their leadership and dedication regarding the senior-center project.

Senior representatives and town officials have met seven times to hash out issues concerning the Will Hall proposal. The proposal will renovate the dormitory building, leased for 30 years with a 10-year extension from Phillips Academy, and turn it into a new senior center, at a cost of more than \$4 million. Since the first meeting in February, the group has agreed that:

- the real project cost is about \$5.2 million;
- the seniors still need \$4.6 million to complete the renovation;

• the money cannot be raised completely by private means, as fundraising group Friends of Andover Seniors had first proposed; and

• the third floor of Will Hall could remain unused if fundraisers can't collect the entire \$4.6 million.

With this knowledge, Selectman Mary French stated her support for the article. "I've come to feel that this is probably the cheapest alternative for the town," said French. If Town Meeting does not approve the private/public partnership in Article 44, the town will likely be faced with the responsibility of completely funding a new center.

French added that the fact that Will Hall is leased from PA — something that many opposers of the project have cited — no longer concerns her. "The lease gives the town a great deal of flexibility," she said.

After moderating all seven meetings with the seniors, Selectmen Chairman Brian Major wants to put the decision to the townspeople to be decided once and for all. "I'd like to go to Town Meeting and ask the vot-

ers, do they recommend the Will Hall lease project with public dollars attached to it?" If the article is passed, Major wants to consider asking the town for a debt exclusion to pay for its \$2 million share in the deal — a proposal that would likely end up on the same ballot for what

officials have called an inevitable Proposition 2½ override next year.

Selectman Ted Teichert, originally wary of the article because it was a change from the seniors' earlier promise of raising all the money themselves, had a change of heart for

the vote. "It's been a long time coming," he said.

Selectmen Ray Hender and John Hess were the two who opposed the recommendation for approval.

Hender reiterated statements made during his campaign for selectman, explaining that he supports the senior-citizen programs, but is unsure that separate senior and youth centers will be affordable in future years. He stated again that he supports a combined facility for both.

Hess also mentioned the youth-center project, stating that his reason to vote against the \$2 million article is similar to the reason he was originally opposed to the youth project before Special Town Meeting last November.

"To commit this number of dollars at this time I don't think is the right approach," said Hess. He added that he would rather wait to decide on the senior-center project at next year's Town Meeting, when he could take a closer look at the town's budget including the new schools, the public safety center and the youth center.



Photo by Tim Jean

A few days after they were sworn in, Selectmen Ray Hender and John Hess cast the two votes on the losing end of the Will Hall vote. Selectmen voted 3-2 to recommend approval of an article seeking \$2 million more for the job.

State's taxpayers would pay millions more to cover those without insurance To save hospitals, senators back bill shifting burden

By Rebecca Piro

Area hospitals are buckling under the burden of paying health-care costs for poor patients and patients with no health insurance. Now, some legislators are saying that the state isn't doing enough to help.

State Sen. Sue Tucker (D-Andover) is one of 135 legislators backing a bill titled "An Act for a Healthy Commonwealth," that demands the state cover a greater percentage of health-care costs for poor patients and those without health insurance.

Most Mass. hospitals, like Lawrence General, Holy Family and Hale, are feeling the strain.

"Our hospitals are very close to crisis," says Tucker. "Everyday, ambulances are being diverted, staffing levels are way below what they should be, and many hospitals are closing."

Right now, the state government pays only 77 cents per dollar of care provided to Medicaid patients or patients on the state health-insurance plan. Hospitals have to pick up the difference.

Payment for the care of those without any health insurance is funded primarily by hospitals, says Tucker. Presently, the state pays about \$30 million into this "uncompensated care pool"; HMOs pay about \$100 million and hospitals pay about \$215 million, says Massachusetts Hospital Association representative Judy Glasser.

This unbalanced financial

burden is slowly taking its toll on hospitals. In the past two decades, patient numbers and emergency-room visits have increased at Lawrence General Hospital from 55,000 patients per year to 63,000, says LGH representative Ellen Murphy. Yet, Holy Family Hospital President Bill Lane has seen the state's number of hospitals shrink from 123 to 68 since the 1960s.

"Right now (the state is) just operating in a crisis-management (mode)," says Tucker. "If a hospital is going to go out of business, we throw some money at it. There has to be a structural remedy."

The bill that Tucker supports calls for the state to increase its contribution to Medicaid coverage over two years. In addition, the hospitals' contribution to the uncompensated care pool would be lowered by \$100 million, and the state's upped \$100 million, while HMOs continue paying \$100 million. "That brings it to a one-third contribution all around," says Glasser.



'There has to be a structural remedy. It's going to cost millions and

millions of dollars, but the alternative is increasing crisis at our hospitals.'

State Sen. Sue Tucker



Photo by Tim Jean

Senators like Andover's Sue Tucker say the state is speeding toward a health crisis as ambulances are diverted.

Passing this bill - which could go into affect as soon as July 1 of fiscal year 2002 - will undoubtedly reduce the number of diversions by easing the financial burden and providing more funding for staffing and hospital beds, Tucker says.

"We don't think the state can afford to lose too many more hospitals," says Glasser.

"It's going to cost millions and millions of dollars, but the alternative is increasing crisis at our hospitals," Tucker agrees.

Talk about it with your family



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3-2, selectmen support schools request for 8.9% increase

(Continued from page 1)

The selectmen's budget meets the School Committee's demands, which exceed the town manager's recommendation by \$1,075,231, by allocating to schools the \$350,000 in excess levy capacity, upping the estimate of state aid by \$200,000, and, most significantly, by shifting \$525,000 of the \$600,000 previously allocated to the stabilization fund for opening the new schools next year.

The Finance Committee's budget keeps the stabilization fund intact.

Stabilization fund proponents like Major want the security of knowing that even if an override for fiscal year 2003 does not pass, there is still money set aside to open the new elementary and middle school, which is expected to cost \$1.4 million.

Andover has never approved a general override of Proposition 2½, which prohibits raising property taxes by more than 2.5 percent per year without a townwide vote.



'The word seemed to be "between a rock and a hard place" and that's sure how it feels.'

Selectman Mary French on the decision facing town officials.



'If this override isn't passed (for fiscal year 2003), we have big cuts coming up.'

Selectman Ted Teichert on what will happen if town approves the 8.9 percent increase.

"If this override isn't passed (for FY 2003), we have big cuts coming up," said Teichert Monday night.

"We will need an override next year. That needs to be very clear to everybody," said Selectman Mary French. "We can start early and work hard to craft that, to show what the town really would be buying with an override."

School Committee Chairwoman Tina Girdwood said she was pleased with the selectmen's vote.

"The selectmen finally came around because they looked at our budget and said, 'This is reasonable.' And it is reasonable," said Girdwood. She said she would rather risk the override next year than suffer a reduction this year in what Superintendent Claudia Bach has called a "bare-bones" school budget.

"The \$600,000 would cause the shut-down of programs and enormous upheaval across the schools," Bach told the Strategic Planning Task Force on Monday regarding the Finance Com-

mittee's budget.

"There's no way they can have that kind of increase next year and open the new schools," said Finance Committee Chair Joanne Marden Tuesday of the 8.9-percent increase represented by the School Committee budget.

The three boards had the goal of unifying behind one budget number to present at Town Meeting on April 23, but the chances of that are diminishing rapidly.

"I think it's doubtful that the Finance Committee will change its position," said Marden. However, she suggested that presenting more than one budget at Town Meeting and allowing residents to vote on it could be desirable.

"More than one person on the Finance Committee expressed an interest in giving a choice at Town Meeting," she said. Marden further asserted, however, that "people need to understand that if they vote this budget this year, they can't have it this way next year



'There's no way we can have that kind of increase next year and open the new schools.'

Finance Committee Chairwoman Joanne Marden, on the 8.9-percent increase recommended by the school department, and now the selectmen.

without raising their property taxes."

Major said on Tuesday that there are currently no further meetings scheduled for the Strategic Planning Task Force, which facilitates communication among the three boards. There is also the possibility of the three boards meeting in their entirety, but no such meeting is currently scheduled.

"I would have rather we had found some middle ground, and maybe we still can," said French on Tuesday. "But the word last night seemed to be 'between a rock and a hard place,' and that's sure how it feels."

Special education move

Increased funding for special education, another issue of initial concern to the selectmen and the Finance Committee, has been jettisoned in the face of stark fiscal constraints. This was the one area of the School Committee budget that the other two boards felt was underfunded, at about \$500,000 less than this year's projected expenditures for special-needs students. That projection already represents an \$800,000 deficit that will have to be appropriated at this year's Town Meeting, and selectmen and FinCom members did not want that to happen again.

"We were very uncomfortable about not increasing funding for SPED, but there wasn't another source of revenue," said Marden.

"I'm very disappointed," said Major. "To underfund special education by \$500,000 is irresponsible."

School officials say that given the volatility of special education costs, it is just as likely that they will decrease as increase.

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POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

ARRESTS
Wednesday, March 28 - At 2:30 p.m., Darlene Johnson, 34, of 3924 Del Monte Ct., Mobile, Ala., was arrested and charged on a warrant for unarmed robbery.

Friday, March 30 - At 4:42 p.m., Deborah Czarnecki, 32, of 178 Maple St., Lynn, was arrested and charged on a warrant for driving without a license and other traffic violations.

At 9 p.m., a 15-year-old male from Andover was arrested and charged with shoplifting.

Sunday, April 1 - At 1:22 a.m., Robert Arseneault, 17, of 17 East Derry Road, Derry, N.H., and a 16-year-old male from Derry, N.H., were arrested and charged as minors transporting alcohol.

At 5:58 a.m., George Kish, 39, of 12 Mount Vernon St., Summerville, N.H., was arrested and charged with possessing a hypodermic needle.

At 12:53 p.m., Abel Vasquez,
25, of 347 Haverhill St.,

Lawrence, was arrested and charged with driving after his right to drive was suspended, failing to stay within marked lanes and giving a false name to a police officer.

At 7:15 p.m., Robert Picard, 31, of 166 Sanborn St., Methuen, was arrested and charged on a warrant for fines owed.

Tuesday, April 3 - At 6:46 p.m., Kennia Gonzalez-Mateo, 27, of 231 Water St., Lawrence, was arrested and charged with shoplifting.

INCIDENTS

INCIDENTS
Wednesday, March 28 - At 1:30 p.m., a female brought a wallet she had found on Elm Street into the station. Police are holding the wallet.

Saturday, March 31 - At 9:59 a.m., a Burnham Road caller reported a missing cell phone.

At 5:20 p.m., the fire department rescued a German Shepherd that fell through ice near Rattlesnake Hill Road.

Sunday, April 1 - At 1:50

p.m., a caller at Regency Ridge reported several kids having a paint ball war. An officer responded to the scene and took all the kids' names down, but determined that they were not doing anything illegal.

Monday, April 2 - At 11:42 a.m., a resident reported that she had received an obscene e-mail.

Tuesday, April 3 - At 10:09 a.m., a caller reported a dead beaver on River Road.

At 11:21 a.m., an officer found a wallet on Main Street. Police are holding the wallet.

At 1:15 p.m., a Mulberry Circle resident reported that a raccoon was sitting on the house's porch.

At 8:40 p.m., a caller reported hearing a young child scream "help me" from a window in Memorial Circle. The call was followed by a second call from that child who reported that his stepfather was hitting him. The stepfather spoke

(Continued on page 20)

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What six feet of river, sewer water leaves behind Aftermath — Flood clean up

By Rebecca Piro

First it was a sofa sitting on the sidewalk in front of 222-226 North Main St. Then it was boxes of odds and ends piled high, followed by wooden furniture warped and twisted by flood waters.

Residents of North Main Street, who left when the Shawsheen River spilled its banks and rushed over their doorsteps last Friday, March 23, spent much of this week cleaning up and cleaning out. They carried items outside to dry, and left many more on the sidewalk for the garbage truck to haul away.

"These aren't the cheap washer/dryers — these are the good ones," says resident Duwayne Erickson of 226 North Main St. Erickson had not yet insured the newly-purchased appliances when the water filled six feet of his basement and ruined them completely. "Financially, you could say we're hurting."

Erickson's wife, Paula, and his two daughters, 13-year-old Chrystyna and 11-year-old Samantha, are staying at the Ramada Hotel, while Erickson stays with family close by his home, where he returns every day to pump a little more water out of his basement.

"I'm trying to keep cool about it," he says, but he admits the situation is depressing. The scene up and down the street isn't much better. Lengths of yellow caution tape are tangled around brush, untouched by residents who haven't returned home yet. The ground remains mushy and

muddy, and the sidewalk is awash with sand, rocks and gravel, like a riverbed.

As of Wednesday, *Townsmen* deadline, all the North Main Street homes except the Ericksons' were pronounced safe by Health Director Everett Penney and Building Inspector Kaija Gilmore. Erickson must continue to sanitize his home before his family can return.

Resident Anthony Motollo, owner of 222, 224 and 226 North Main St., says that the other families were preparing to move back in Wednesday, after *Townsmen* deadline. Those residents were also staying at either the Ramada or Tage Inn, where Motollo put them up until their basements drained out. On Tuesday the gas, electricity and heat were turned back on in those homes, Motollo says.

Because it is so expensive to get flood insurance, Motollo says he will foot the bill for the gas and electrical repairs, as well as other damages incurred by the water.

Erickson is also working hard to clean up. Since the flood came, he's spent his time in vinyl hip-waders, picking through his water-logged belongings, which were saturated by the water and sewage from the pipes that overflowed.

"If it was just regular water, I'd be happy about it," he laughs. He plans to buy some Borax and spread it around the sand and mud that was once his yard to get rid of the sewage. "With the girls around, I want it to be protected,"

he says.

Steve Curtin, owner of the Sunoco gas station across the street, says he hasn't seen much activity at the evacuated homes since the rains came. He's owned the station for 30 years and seen the area flood several times.

"It's sad, but I've seen it probably six, seven, eight times," Curtin says, who knows the homes are located in a flood plain. "When you live here, you've got to know it will happen. It's kind of sad that people don't prepare."

Erickson has lived at 226 North Main St. for three years now, and says this is the worst flooding he has seen yet.

"I have to laugh. If I don't, I'll go nuts," he says. He tries to keep his wife's words in mind. "At least it wasn't a fire, and at least we didn't lose someone," he says. "These are material things. They can be replaced, but a life can't."



Photo by Tim Jean

A North Main Street resident reaches to show just how high the water rose in his basement.



Photo by Tim Jean

Will Harvey helps haul out furniture ruined by the rising flood waters of the Shawsheen River last week. The town government is still waiting to here what level of relief FEMA will offer

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Express Mart - 4 Railroad St.
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Larry D's Village Deli - 32 Andover St.
Letourneau's Pharmacy - 349 N. Main St.
Main Street Mobil - 14 N. Main St.
Market Basket - Shawsheen Plaza
Rolling Green Mobil - 309 Lowell St.
Sunday's General Store - 195 Andover St.
Village Liquors - 4 Poor St.
West Andover Mobil - 139 River Rd.
Wild Oats - 40 Railroad St.
Wyndham/Andover Hotel Gift Shop 123 River Rd.

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CVS - 115 Main St.
CVS - 350 Winthrop Ave.
Eagle Tribune - 100 Turnpike St.
J&M Country Store - 701 Salem St.
Joe's Variety - 220 Middlesex St.
Market Basket - 350 Winthrop Ave.
Osco Drug - 525 Turnpike St.
Perfecto's - Butcher Boy Plaza
Richdale - 75 Chickering Rd.
Richdale - 533 Chickering Rd.
Richdale - 4 Main St.
Sam's Mobil Mart - 12 Mass. Ave.
Super Stop & Shop - 757 Turnpike St.
Star Market - 109 Main St.
The General Store - 7 Johnson St.
The Vineyard - 550 Turnpike St.

ROXFORD

The Village Store - 561 Main St.

SOUTH LAWRENCE

Gary's Variety - 58 Beacon St.
Julie & Wendy's - 525 South Broadway

MIDDLETON

Market Basket - 230 S. Main St.
Richdale - 27 S. Main St.

METHUEN

Galloway's - 176 Pelham St.
Market Basket - 70 Pleasant Valley St.
Richdale - 76 Swan St.
White Hen Pantry - 319 Merrimack St.
Super Stop & Shop - Pleasant Valley St.

NORTH READING

Brooks - 265 Main St.
Citgo Quik Mart - 237 Main St.
Convenience Plus - Main St.
CVS - 20 Main St.
Kappy's Liquors - 265 Main St.
Lil' Peach - 202 North St.
New England Redemption - 158 Main St.
Star Market - 265 Main St.
Super Stop & Shop - 97 Main St.

TEWKSBURY

Crystal's General Store - 1120 Main St.
CVS - 10 Main St.
CVS - 1900 Main St. (Oakdale Mall)
Lil' Peach - 2280 Main St.
Market Basket - 10 Main St.
Market Basket - 1900 Main St. (Oakdale Mall)
White Hen Pantry - 1699 Shawsheen St.

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Market Basket - 240 Main St.

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POLICE LOG

(Continued from page 18)

with police and told them that he had been spanking the boy.

BREAKS

Wednesday, March 28
At 12:32 p.m., an Andover Street resident reported that someone had tried to break into his house earlier that day. An officer reported that the person had not gained entry into the home.

THEFTS

Wednesday, March 28
At 12:25 p.m., an Avon Street resident reported a case of

identity fraud.

Thursday, March 29 - At 4:04 p.m., a caller from Doherty Middle School reported that something had been stolen from a student's locker.

Friday, March 30 - At 2:10 p.m., a caller from Burt Road reported the theft of a piece of construction equipment.

At 8:34 p.m., a caller reported that a cell phone and some credit cards had been stolen from the YMCA on Haverhill Street.

Saturday, March 31 - At 6:53 p.m., a resident reported

a theft from his apartment on Main Street.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Friday, March 30 - At 7:21 p.m., a caller reported that a deer had been hit by a vehicle on Osgood Street.

Saturday, March 31 - At 5:29 a.m., an officer discovered an abandoned vehicle on Lupine Road. The vehicle was not stolen, according to records, but police could not find a telephone number to reach the owner. The car appeared to be from Somerville, and that police department was to look into the matter.

At 10:35 a.m., a Corbett Street resident reported that someone had vandalized his

vehicle. An officer determined that the vehicle was not vandalized, and the damage done to it was from a defect in the road.

At 12:09 p.m., a caller reported that a tenant on Lowell Street had left a vehicle on the property for more than one month. An officer issued a citation to the vehicle's owner for abandoning the vehicle.

ACCIDENTS

Thursday, March 29 - At 8:50 a.m., a motor vehicle struck a tree on Elm Street. An ambulance was dispatched to the scene to treat the driver and the vehicle was towed away.

Monday, April 2 - At 1:01

p.m., a motor vehicle accident occurred on North Main Street. One female was treated for injuries and her vehicle was towed away.

Tuesday, April 3 - At 6:13 a.m., an employee at the Grocery Bag reported a car accident on Haverhill Street. An ambulance reported to the scene to treat the

injured party and the vehicle was towed away.

Tuesday, April 3 - At 9:25 a.m., an accident was reported on North Main Street in front of McDonalds. One vehicle was towed from the scene.

VANDALISM

One case of vandalism was reported this week.

AG charges fraud

An Andover man was charged last week with allegedly conspiring to defraud an insurance company with a phony jewelry theft claim, according to the Attorney General's office. John Pappalardo, 34, of Andover is charged with insurance claim fraud, larceny of materials worth more than \$250, conspiracy and the false report of a crime to a police officer.

Pappalardo allegedly reported to Pennsylvania Millers Mutual Insurance Company that unknown attackers mugged him and then stole jewelry from him - the same claim reported by a Methuen man who was also charged with insurance fraud, according to a press release.

Pennsylvania Millers awarded Pappalardo \$5,900 to settle the claim before the Insurance Fraud Bureau of Massachusetts discovered the scam. Both men could face up to two and a half years in a house of correction, fines and restitution.

- Rebecca Piro

A free test that could save your life.

Getting screened is the most important step in lowering your risk of colon cancer. The Holy Family Hospital and Medical Center in collaboration with the Andover Health Department will be distributing home screening kits free of charge to Andover residents. Kits may be picked up from the office of the Public Health Nurse at the Health Department from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm daily during the week of April 9 through April 13.

The tests will be read free of charge at the Holy Family Hospital. Early detection is an important step in the prevention of colo/rectal cancer.

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Arts & Entertainment



Peggy Rambach

Andover author's work explores a love lost

By Adam Groff

Peggy Rambach is not especially unusual for having gone through a divorce, or even for having dealt with her husband's being crippled in an automobile accident while they were still together. As she says, "Bad things happen to lots of people."

But Rambach is a writer, and these transformative experiences could not help but emerge in her writing.

"After Andre's accident," says Rambach, "I couldn't really write about what I used to write about: other people. The things I went through were so profound, so life-changing, that I had to write about them. The accident and the sudden ending of my marriage gave me a heightened sensitivity to the fragility of life. I had to understand that aspect of life through writing about it."

On her own from the late 1980s, Rambach struggled with her writing. She tried to write a memoir, but the process of documenting the dry, chronological progression of facts left her cold. At last, she settled on what she calls a "breakthrough in voice": she decided to write a novel, shifting her own experiences the very short distance from fact to fiction, thereby enhancing their meaning for herself, and, she hopes, making them more

accessible to others.

She worked on the book in fits and starts for seven years, and then spent another two trying to find a publisher for it. The result, released this month by Steerforth Press, is *Fighting Gravity*.

"I still can't believe it exists," she says.

Part of Rambach wishes her former husband had not been so well-known; but that, of course, is part of the story. He was the writer Andre Dubus, a Haverhill resident prominent in literary circles for his short stories. His accident, in which he was struck by an oncoming car as he stopped to help some stranded motorists on Interstate 93, occurred in 1986. Dubus died suddenly of a heart attack in 1999. His son from a previous marriage, Andre Dubus III of Newburyport, has risen to prominence with his recent book, *House of Sand and Fog*.

"I would prefer if people just came cold to the book," says Rambach, "but I'm sure that's not going to happen."

The book jacket itself, after all, notes that Rambach "was married to the writer Andre Dubus. Though a work of fiction, *Fighting Gravity* is based on their time together."

Thirty-two chapters and 134 pages long, *Fighting Gravity* is a series of

scenes, not in chronological order, in the lives of Ellie Rifkin, a young Jewish woman from New York City, and Gerard Babineau, a hard-drinking, French-Catholic writer from Louisiana. The chapters chronicle episodes from their meeting, his accident, and their eventual separation.

"Every scene happened," says Rambach, "and they are there because I needed to know what they meant. But you could imagine that I made it all up, and it would still mean the same thing."

Nearly all of the details in the book existed in real life, from the apartment shared by the couple early in their relationship (actually in Bradford), to the quarter retrieved from Dubus's (and Babineau's) pocket after the accident, bent by the impact of the car. What is made up, crucially, is Rambach's use of Babineau's voice in the book, a thing that can be done only by an author with the author's own fictional character.

"I would be presumptuous if I pretended that I know Andre," says Rambach, "because no one knows another person like that. Isn't that the tantalizing part of love, that you love someone, but you can't really know them like you know yourself?"

(Continued on page 40)

Chamber Music Series hosts finale concert

The Andover Chamber Music Series presents its fourth and final concert of the season with a joyful celebration of international music on Sunday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. at

The Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College.

Artistic director Julia Scolnik says she has assembled an all-star cast of acclaimed musicians to perform Mozart's

Kegelstaff trio for clarinet, piano and viola, supposedly written while Mozart played kegelstatt (skittles) with his friend, clarinetist Anton Stadler. Poulenc's playful trio for piano, oboe and bassoon is also on the program with Verdi's *Masked Ball*, in a century arrangement for flute, clarinet and piano. Scolnik has also programmed Leos Janacek's beautiful *Mladi!* (*Youth!*), which incorporates the charming folk tunes of Janacek's native Czechoslovakia in a sextet.

Once again, Scolnik has aimed to bring together an ensemble of premier musicians. Clarinetist Todd Palmer and Eric Ruske, horn, have won their reputations as soloists and chamber musicians. Both international competition winners, Palmer and Ruske have performed worldwide in recital and with major symphonies.

Robert Sheena, oboe, and

Richard Svoboda, bassoon, are both members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and frequent solo and chamber performers.

Violist Mai Motobuchi has performed in concert throughout the US and Japan, including appearances with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Houston Symphony. Pianist Sergey Schepkin is the recipient of multiple prizes, and the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post* and the *BBC Music Magazine* have praised his recordings of Bach's piano works.

More about the composers and the programmed works will be presented in a pre-concert lecture for ticket holders at 6:30 p.m.

More information on the concert and the performers can be found on the ACMS website: <www.andoverchambermusic.org>.

Tickets for the concert are \$22, \$18 and \$14, and can be obtained in advance by calling 1-800-687-0431 or 978-474-6222, or on the Web site.

◀ Pianist Sergey Schepkin

Appearing in 'The Sound of Music'

Hillary Nadworny of Andover will perform in Arlington Catholic High School's production of *The Sound of Music* tomorrow,

Friday, April 6 and Saturday, April 7 at 8 p.m. at Regent Theater in Arlington.

Hillary is the youngest

cast member. She will play Gretel, the last of the seven Von Trapp children.

Hillary has performed in two productions from Merrimack Junior Theater and numerous vocal recitals as part of Music is Art in Stoneham. She is the daughter of Sherry and Eric Nadworny.

Tickets for the production are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children.

For tickets or more information, call 781-646-7770.



Hillary Nadworny



EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Anything Goes, Merrimack College On-Stagers, 8 p.m., \$10 adults, \$5 seniors, students, Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College; 978-837-5355.

The Coffee Shop, Northern Essex Community College Top Notch Players, 8 p.m., \$5, \$4 seniors, Top Notch Theater, Haverhill campus; James Murphy 978-556-3374.

Acoustic night, 8 p.m.,

Palmer's Restaurant, 18 Elm St.; 978-470-1606.

Training day, for volunteers with 3rd-grade program, Andover in the 1820s, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St.; 978-475-2236.

College, career fair, 7-8:30 p.m., for students in grades 5-12, Tewksbury Memorial High School, Pleasant Street, Tewksbury; 978-640-7837.

Live comedy, 8 p.m., Boston Comedy Festi-

val hosted by Dave Russo, call for prices, Comedy Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; 978-687-2442.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

Andover author reading, Peggy Rambach reads from *Fighting Gravity*, 7 p.m., Andover Bookstore, 89R Main St.; 800-401-0143. ▶

Night of Hypnotic Delight, benefits Andover Youth Foundation, high-schoolers



Fighting Gravity:
Peggy Rambach

welcome, 7:30 p.m., \$8, Old Town Hall, 20 Main

St.; 978-623-8241.

Live music, Willie D & Continental Walk, 9 p.m., Palmer's Restaurant, 18 Elm St.; 978-470-1606.

Livingston Taylor concert, 8 p.m., \$20-\$100, Emerson Umbrella, 40 Stow St., Concord; 978-371-1482.

Live comedy, 9:30 p.m., Frank Santorelli, Jim Colliton, Lamont Price, call for prices, Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, Rte. 125, North Andover; 781-938-

8088.

Live comedy, 9 p.m., Al Ducharme, Pete Costello, call for prices, Comedy Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; 978-687-2442.

Anything Goes, see April 5 entry.

The Coffee Shop, see April 5 entry.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Passover Seder, sponsored by Havurat Shalom, 5 p.m., \$5 person, \$15 family, location changed; 978-475-

9583.

Healthy Kids Day, 1-5 p.m., YMCA, 165 Haverhill St.; 978-725-6681.

Live music, Larry & Bluescasters, 9 p.m., Palmer's Restaurant, 18 Elm St.; 978-470-1606.

Senior recital, featuring pianist composer Nicholas Morrison of Paris, France, 7:30 p.m., free, Graves Hall, Phillips Academy; 978-749-4263.

The Divine Plan, passion play by the New Life Players, 8 p.m., free, New Life Center, Breckenridge Plaza, North Broadway, Salem, N.H.; 603-894-6129.

Live comedy, 9:30 p.m., Frank Santorelli, Jim Colliton, Lamont Price, call for prices, Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, Rte. 125, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Live comedy, Jimmy S., John Valby, Al Ducharme, Pete Costello, R-rated hypnotist, call for time, prices, Comedy Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; 978-687-2442.

Anything Goes, 2 p.m., dinner show, 8 p.m., \$23, see April 5 entry.

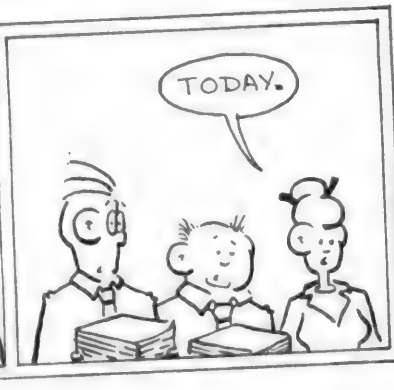
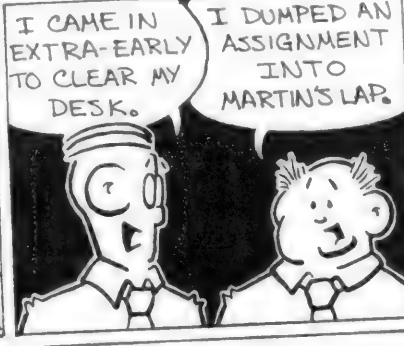
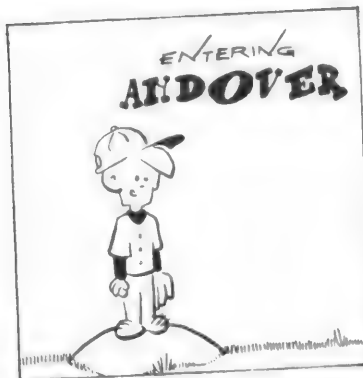
The Coffee Shop, see April 5 entry.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Concert, Andover Chamber Music Series, 7:30 p.m., \$14-\$22, Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College; 474-6222, <www.andoverchambermusic.org>.

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EVENTS CALENDAR LISTINGS

Hike, sponsored by Andover Appalachian Mountain Club, Wapack Trail; Larry Blood 781-944-0929 or <lblood@sprynet.com>.

3-4 mile hike, sponsored by Andover Appalachian Mountain Club, 1:30 p.m., AVIS Skug River Reservation, a section of Harold Parker Forest; Marta and Dick Hornidge 978-475-3595, <innisfree@prodigy.net>.

Lecture, "Thru the Needle's Eye," sponsored by the Embroiders' Guild of America, 14 p.m., free, Tewksbury Congregational Church, Main, East streets, Tewksbury; Rosemary Carter 781-893-0959.

Opening reception, for current exhibit *Landscape 20001* featuring works by six artists, 2-4 p.m., McCoy Gallery at Merrimack College; 978-837-5189.

The Divine Plan, 7 p.m., see April 7 entry.

MONDAY, APRIL 9

Beating the Admissions Game workshop for parents, with admissions expert from College Coach, 7 p.m., free, Pike School; 877-402-6224, <www.getintocollege.com>.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Discussion on natural hormone replacement therapy, with Bedford Pharmacy pharmacist Ronald Petrin, 7 p.m., Marland Place, 15 Stevens St.; RSVP required 978-475-

4225.

Women's luncheon with live music, sponsored by Middle Suburban Christian Women's Club, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., \$14, Ramada Rolling Green; Ruth 781-862-1679.

Horticulturist Peter Konjoian, Andover-North Andover AARP meeting, 1:30 p.m., Senior Center, Whittier Court; 978-475-6698.

Jazz, The Matt Glaser Trio, 7:30-10:30 p.m., \$5 cover, Casa Vecchia, Rte. 97, Salem, N.H.; (603) 893-6553.

"Positive Ways of Dealing with Negative Behavior", presented by parenting consultant Lynne Laffie, 7-9 p.m., \$10, \$15 couple, Marland Place, 15 Stevens St.; 978-474-0408.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Fundraising party, in memory of Andover teacher Candy Bachner to benefit her daughter Tara's run in the Boston Marathon, 6 p.m., \$10, music, prizes, Palmers, 18 Elm St.; Tara Bachner 603-870-5481.

Members forum, 6:30 p.m., Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St.; 978-475-2236.

Tenebrae, a musical prayer service, 7:30 p.m., free, Trinity Episcopal Church, 124 River Road, Topsfield; 978-887-5570.

Adoption information meeting, 7 p.m., Florence Crittenton League, 119

Hall St., Lowell; 978-452-9671.

Essex County Community Foundation meeting, 6:30-8 p.m., Essex Art Center, 56 Island St., Lawrence; 978-887-8876.

Civil War Round Table presentation, on Norwich University and the Civil War, 7:30 p.m., Hilton Senior Center, Lafayette Road, Salisbury; 603-870-0043.

Garden workshop, 7:30 p.m., \$5, Smith Hall, Essex Agricultural School, Rte. 62, Danvers; Dan Tremblay 978-777-2711.

Slide competition night, Merrimack Valley Camera Club, 7:15 p.m., Trinitarian Congregational Church, Elm Street, North Andover; 978-689-9643.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Homebased Businesswomen's Network meeting, 7 p.m., \$10, focus on assertiveness training, Village Green Restaurant, Rte. 1, Danvers; Teri 781-558-1367.

Ghosts, historical lore of Essex County presentation, 7:30 p.m., \$5, for ages 10 and up, Smith Hall, Essex Agricultural School, Rte. 62, Danvers; Dan Tremblay 978-777-2711.

Live music, Trio Deluxe w/Johnny A., 8 p.m., Palmer's Restaurant, 18 Elm St.; 978-470-1606.

Live comedy, 8 p.m., Tony V., call for prices, Comedy

(Continued on page 24)



All-Town Musicians — The Combined West and Doherty Middle School 7th- and 8th-Grade Bands were very focused (top photo) during the All-Town Band Concert at the Collins Center last month. They are directed by Brandon Psenicka and Rosemary Sears. Below, the Andover High School Concert Band trumpet section gets ready for their cue. Trumpet players are Matthew Bagnall, James Bover, Bethany Givens, George Lewis, Matthew Rosensweig, and Bradford Sherman.



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Joe Carroll

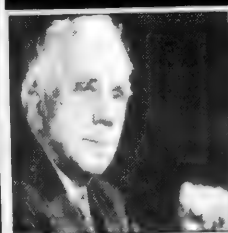
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At Lawrence High School

Join us as recent U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky speaks about Robert Frost's poetry and his important connection to the City of Lawrence.

Enjoy an opportunity to meet Mr. Pinsky at a reception at Lawrence Public Library prior to the event at 5:30 pm. The reception ticket is \$40 and includes light dinner and entrance to the event.

Tickets only to "Celebrating Connections" are \$10

To reserve tickets, call The Robert Frost Foundation at (978) 725-8828 or visit us at www.frostfoundation.org

Don't miss this extraordinary evening!

WHAT'S UP

Night of Hypnotic Delight at Old Town Hall

Patrick B. Sullivan,
Andover Youth Council

Normally sedate people barking like dogs; calm humans totally freaked out by imaginary birds; and jokes upon jokes. What do all these things have in common? All of these will all be cropping up at the Old Town Hall tomorrow, Friday, April 6.

Renowned comedian Chance Lankton will be busting out the barrels of laughter and hypnotist extraordinaire Jerry Valley will be messing with everyone's minds.

All high school students are welcome.

The doors to the party open at 7:30 p.m. and the price is only \$8. All proceeds are benefiting the Andover Youth Foundation (the people raising funds for the new youth center) and all donations will be warmly accepted. If you're a high school student under 18 and would like to be hypnotized, grab yourself a permission slip off the walls at school. Don't miss out on this Hypno Hoedown.

► For more information about WHAT'S UP, call Bill Fahey, Andover Youth Services director, or Glenn Wilson, assistant director, at 623-8241; or Jack Grady, Townsman assistant editor, at 475-7000. E-mail submissions to: jack@andovertownsman.com



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EVENTS CALENDAR LISTINGS

(Continued from page 23)

Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; 978-687-2442.

Living Last Supper, 7:30 p.m., West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road; Jan Litchfield 978-470-1609. ►

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

42nd Street, Colonial Chorus Players, 8 p.m., \$14, \$10 students, seniors, Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, Kendall Square, corner of 3rd Street, Cambridge; 781-944-9780, <www.colonialchorus.com>.

Live music, Acoustic Alligators, 9 p.m., Palmer's Restaurant, 18 Elm St.; 978-470-1606.

Live comedy, 9 p.m., Rosie's Bachelorette Party, call for prices, Comedy Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; 978-687-2442.

Live comedy, 9:30 p.m., Marci Coyote Rose, Greg Boggis, Bari Lee, call for prices, Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, Rte. 125, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Easter Egg Hunt, for ages pre-school to 9, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Mar-

(Continued on page 25)



The church's Living Last Supper production in 1995.

West Parish presents 'Living Last Supper'

Members of Andover's West Parish Church will present a dramatic reenactment of Jesus Christ's last night on Maundy Thursday, April 12, at 7:30 p.m. Based on the well-known Biblical story and set to Leonardo Da Vinci's famous painting, the short play describes the reactions of the 12 disciples when they are informed of Jesus' expected betrayal.

The drama is inspired by Da Vinci's 15th-century painting on the wall of the refectory of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan, Italy. The painting depicts the moment when Jesus announces to his disciples "One of you will betray me." This service includes musical interludes and will be followed by a short communion service, open to all. The church is located at 129 Reservation Road.

Members of the cast include Chris Bates, Jeff Dion, David Duncan, Chris Easton, Dennis Klockow, Steve Knapp, Al Muggia, Don Nickerson, Jim Olson, Mark Tubinis, Steve Vano, and Wayne Wivell as the disciples; John Ippolito as Leonardo Da Vinci; Gail Der Ananian and Ellen Harmoning as the narrators; and the Rev. Mark Welch as Jesus.

The play is directed by Beverly Morgan Welch.

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EVENTS CALENDAR LISTINGS

(Continued from page 24)

land Place, 15 Stevens St.; reservations required 978-475-4225.

Easter Egg Hunt, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., \$3, benefits Salem N.H. Boys and Girls Club, America's Stonehenge, off Rte. 111, Salem, N.H.; 603-893-8300, <www.stonehengeusa.com>.

Murder at the Stevens Estate, dinner and show, \$55, Stevens

College performs 'Anything Goes'

The Merrimack College drama group, On-Stagers, performs the musical comedy *Anything Goes* this weekend.

The show opens today at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College.

Show time for tonight, Thursday, April 5 and Friday, April 6 is 8 p.m. On Saturday, April 7 the performances are at 2 p.m. At 8 p.m. there will be a dinner theater package offered. Dinner includes a full course dinner in Merrimack's Cascia Hall followed by the play.

Tickets are \$10 adults, \$5 students and seniors. A dinner matinee is offered for \$23. Tickets are available at the door or by calling the box office at 978-837-5355.

About 60 students make up the On-Stagers and this show is directed by Thomas M. Reiff, a professional actor and director originally from Philadelphia who has been in Boston for two years.

Easter Egg Hunt ready to roll next Saturday

Marland Place, located at 15 Stevens St., will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 14 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

The event is for children ages preschool to 9 years old. Refreshments will be served. An RSVP is required. Call 978-475-4225.

Estate, 732 Osgood St., North Andover; 800-697-2583.

Live folk music, with Lucy Kaplansky, Crossroads Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., \$14, North Parish

Church, North Andover; 978-687-3960.

Book fair, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Hale Hospital lobby, 140 Lincoln Ave., Haverhill.

Live comedy, 8 p.m.,

Bob Gautreau, Dave Russo, Pat Napoli, call for prices, Comedy Palace at Grill 93, River Road, Andover; 978-687-2442.

Live comedy, 9:30 p.m.,

Marci Coyote Rose, Greg Boggis, Bari Lee, call for prices, Comedy Escape at the China Blossom, Rte. 125, North Andover; 781-938-8088.

Live music, Fast Eddy, 9 p.m., Palmer's Restaurant, 18 Elm St.;

978-470-1606. 42nd Street, see April 13 entry.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15
Easter Sunday. No events scheduled.

ONGOING
Museums and

Historic Homes
Andover Historical Society permanent exhibit Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum, Andover artist and collector Doug Bell mixed media sculpture and paint-
(Continued on page 40)

Merrimack Montessori to host concert



Rick Goldin

The Merrimack Montessori School in Haverhill presents "A Concert for Children" starring Rick Goldin on Wednesday, April 18 at 11 a.m. at the Haverhill City Hall Auditorium.

This event offers music, puppets, fun and prizes during the spring vacation week for young children. Goldin's lively, interactive and humorous children's songs have made him one of the most popular children's entertainers in New England, organizers said.

Children get to sing-a-long and dance with Goldin and his singing animal puppets, Henry the Horse, Quackleberry duck, and others. The concert, at 55 Altonstall Road, is open to the public. Tickets are \$3.



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Throughout April, National Poetry Month The Addison Gallery of American Art presents

MOVING PICTURES: Poetry and Film Series
Wednesdays at 7pm

Kemper Auditorium, Phillips Academy

In collaboration with the Harvard Film Archive, the Addison presents three evenings of classic and never-before-seen footage that documents the roots of poetry performance and the development of the poetry slam since the early 1980's. Screenings will include introductory comments, poetry readings and informal discussion.

April 11

Poetic License directed by David Yanofsky, 2000
Followed by an Open Mic Hour: Bring your favorite poem!

April 18

Poetry in Motion directed by Ron Mann, 1982

April 25

Hanuman Presents! (plus a feature on a unique Beat poem) both by Vincent Katz and Vivien Bittencourt, 1998

Poetry Reading: Robert Creeley and Vincent Katz
Sunday, April 29 at 1 pm at the Addison Gallery

Come to enjoy the unique voices of two well-recognized poets of different generations. Reception and discussion to follow

These programs were organized in collaboration with the Phillips Academy English Department and in conjunction with the exhibition **Alex Katz: Small Paintings**, April 7- July 31, 2001

For more information about these events,

Please call the Addison Education Department: 978-749-4037

ADDISON GALLERY OF AMERICAN ART PHILLIPS ACADEMY ANDOVER, MA 01810

Living

Employees at Andover Controls pull together for one of their own

By Rebecca Piro

When Jacqueline Lantigua's 9-year-old son told her, "I smell smoke," she grabbed their coats and her keys and slammed the door behind them.

The smoke was coming from a five-alarm blaze that left 12 families homeless on Saturday, March 3, including Lantigua and her son. Lantigua remembers standing by helplessly as the fire engulfed her Lawrence apartment complex on Newbury Street. "It's very hopeless to just stand there and watch everything burn," she recalls.

But that empty feeling was replaced by one of surprise and joy when Lantigua returned to her job at Andover

Controls in Brickstone Square. When she walked in the door, coworkers greeted her with open arms and kind words. Then, last week, they presented her with a check for \$8,000 to get her back on her feet.

"I was overwhelmed. I didn't know I was loved so much," she says.

The Employee Activity Committee, a group of Andover Control workers that organizes social functions, sat down together to work on a plan to help Lantigua. They decided on a raffle for 300 \$1 scratch tickets - purchased at Andover's Grocery Bag store - and the company president Bill LaPointe agreed to match the money they raised. Before long, employees like Priscilla Janson had raised almost

\$4,000 for Lantigua.

"One person gave \$500," says Janson, marketing communications manager, who raised about \$2,800 herself. "Checks for \$50 were very common."

When workers presented the \$8,000 check to Lantigua, she couldn't believe the generosity of her fellow employees.

But the crowning touch was when workers insisted that Lantigua pick the winning raffle ticket - and she pulled out her own name.

"I thought, 'I never knew there was another Jacki in the company,'" says Lantigua, who didn't immediately realize what had happened. "I just couldn't believe it."

Lantigua's name ended up in the bucket of raffle tickets when LaPointe, the president, requested that her name go on the tickets he purchased. So Lantigua won the book of scratch tickets, which yielded another \$246.

"We're definitely a high-tech company, but we have a



Good luck replaces bad — Jacqueline Lantigua, an employee at Andover Controls, picked the winning raffle ticket for a book of scratch tickets - and she pulled out her own name. Employees raised \$8,000 to benefit Lantigua, whose apartment in Lawrence was destroyed in a March 3 fire.

small-company feel," says Janson, of the 330 employees. "When something like this (tragedy) happens, we take care of our own."

Lantigua, who is currently staying with her uncle, plans to purchase her own home as

soon as possible. Though she is struggling with the need to depend on others - "I've never depended on anyone for anything," she says - she is appreciative of the support that has surrounded her and her son. "I feel blessed," she says.



Setting sail — Actress Judy Bernstein will present her new one-woman show, "The Proper Bostonians" on Wednesday April 18, at 9:30 a.m. at the Memorial Hall Library. This program offers an entertaining look at Boston society and is described as a piece of Americana. Norma A. Gammon, community service librarian, said this docu-drama is a "gentle and hilarious spoof on the social customs of high society at the turn of the century in this area." Steeped in the history of 1700 to 1800, up until the Civil War, the production is alive with personalities and humorous anecdotes and tales of merchant princes, sea captains and our founding families: the Lowells, Cabots, Peabodys, Saltonstalls and many others. The event is sponsored by the Friends of Memorial Hall Library and this program is free. For more information, call Gammon at 623-8401.

Social events calendar blooming this month

Spring fundraiser highlights Gershwin

In honor of its 45th anniversary, Jewish Family Service of the Merrimack Valley will present "An Evening of Gershwin" with Lynne Jackson and Mike Palter.

Jackson and Palter are jazz and cabaret artists who perform music from the Great American Song Book. Jackson plays piano, while Palter is on the acoustic bass. They give a loving tribute to Gershwin's sublime refrains and romantic melodies, organizers said.

The event takes place Saturday, April 21, at Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road. A wine and cheese reception starts at 7 p.m. The performance begins at 8.

Tickets are \$25 per person, and \$20 for seniors. Patron and sponsor rates are available, for \$100 and \$250, respectively.

For more information, call Marcia Strauss at 978-683-6711.

Christian films at Showcase Cinemas

The ninth annual Merrimack Valley Christian Film Festival is being held from Palm Sunday, April 8, through Easter Sunday, April 15, at the New Showcase Cinemas 1-6, in South Lawrence.

Twelve films for families, plus 70 shows for teens and children will be shown during the seven-day run. Personal appearances by film producers and directors are also planned, according to organizers.

This film series was started in 1993. Last

year, more than 12,000 people attended, says Tom Saab of Methuen, director of Christian Film Festivals of America.

His group is a non-profit organization. Numerous churches and individual volunteers support the Christian Film Festivals in their local areas.

Admission is free to all shows.

For more information about the festival and the complete movie listing, call 978-937-4013; or visit <www.christianfilmfestival>.

Ways of dealing with negativity

Parenting consultant Lynne Laffie will discuss "positive ways of dealing with negative behavior," for parents on Tuesday, April 10.

The Mother Connection is sponsoring the event, which runs from 7 to 9 p.m. and will be held at Marland Place, 15 Stevens St. The cost is \$10 per person, or \$15 per couple.

Seating is limited, and an RSVP is suggested. Call Janine Ceraso at 978-687-9406.

Enhancing gardens at AARP talk

Dr. Peter Konjoian, radio horticulturist, will be featured again at AARP's Andover-North Andover chapter meeting on Tuesday, April 10.

The meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center, Whittier Court.

Konjoian will talk about enhancing gardens and offering advice on shrubbery problems.

For more information, call Robert E. Sanborn at 978-475-6698.

NEWS FOR SENIORS

By Pat Becker

Here are some of the activities planned at the Andover Senior Center (note that advance sign-up is necessary for many of the programs):

Spring Craft and Bake Sale: The center's craft group will hold their spring sale on Friday, April 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The sale will feature spring decorations, seasonal crafts, Easter plants, and baked goods. Help us by spreading the word and dropping by to browse. We appreciate your support. Also, we are looking for bakers for the April 6 fair.

American Textile History Museum: The museum is sponsoring a very special exhibit entitled "The Quiet Work Of Women," which we will visit on Thursday, April 26. This historic exhibit contains more than 40 pieces of beautiful hand-woven mountain coverlets that were produced by 19th- and early 20th-century hand weavers from southern Appalachia. This is the first collection of its kind to be seen outside the artists' local communities. In addition, we will also enjoy a guided tour of the permanent exhibit, which received *Yankee Magazine's* Editor's Pick award for 2000. Cost of the trip is \$18, which includes transportation, and reservations may be made by stopping into the center.

Spirituality Series: Our spirituality series will begin a new six week session, "A Tale To Tell: Sharing Wise Women's Wisdom" on Wednesday, April 11 at 1 p.m. This interactive group is open to all interested women at a cost of \$10.

Movie Matinee: On Monday, April 9 at 1 p.m. we will show the recent release *Autumn in New York*. Winona Ryder and Richard Gere star in this bittersweet story of a May/December romance between a handsome, charming rogue and a free-spirited artist. Andover Video supports our Movie Matinee.

Watercolor Demonstration: Our visiting artist on Tuesday, April 10 will be Joan Rademacher, an award-winning artist, a member of many art associations and someone who has exhibited in various galleries and venues including the Copley Society and WGBH in Boston. She will be demonstrating a watercolor landscape on the above date at 9:30 a.m. Anyone interested in watching this artist at work is welcome to make a reservation to attend. Cost is \$5.

Alzheimer's Support Group: The Alzheimer's support group will hold its next meeting at the center on Monday, April 9 at 7 p.m. Newcomers are welcome.

Call Rachel Zalvan at the senior center.

Sunday Concert: On Sunday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m., the Andover Chamber Music Series will present its season finale, "Youth Golden Youth: Music From Around The World" at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College. A generous benefactor has donated 30 complimentary tickets to the senior center. To attend the concert that evening, contact Pat Becker at the senior center.

Computer Interest Group: The computer interest group will hold its monthly meeting Monday, April 9 at 1:30 p.m. Anyone interested in sharing and exchanging information is welcome to attend. The meeting will take place in the first floor activity room of Memorial Hall Library. For further information, call Don Sagaser at 475-6116.

Computer Classes: Registration for the spring semester of computer classes will take place at the center on Thursday, April 12 at 1:30 p.m. We will offer classes for beginners, intermediates, and those interested in Internet training. Our classes are all limited to six students and fill up quickly.

Brown Bag Lecture: On Wednesday, April 11 at noon we'll enjoy a visit from Fran McCormick and other members of the Bartlet Street Poets, who will share some of their work with us in honor of National Poetry Month. Bring along your favorite poem to share if you wish. Reservations (\$2) are necessary. Call the center to attend.

Supper Club: Our next supper club will take us to the Focaccia Restaurant on Wednesday, April 18 at 5 p.m. We have five great entrees to choose from at an inclusive price of \$15. Everyone is welcome to attend these monthly evenings out. Stop into the center if you'd like to make a reservation.

Creative Cooking: Our creative cooking group also welcomes new and interested folks who would like to join in. The next class will be held Wednesday, April 18 at 9 a.m. Cost is \$6, which includes lunch at the end of class. We'll be trying out new and interesting spring salads this month. Call the center if you would like to give this group a try.

Flower Arranging: Flower arranger Betsy Chisholm will conduct a class for beginners and intermediates on Monday, April 23 at 2 p.m. Cost of the class is \$10, which includes flowers and all supplies except containers. Bring your own basket, bowl,

(Continued on page 29)

BIRTHS

BERUBE - A daughter, Emma Elizabeth Berube, born to Christopher and Sue Berube of Andover on Feb. 28 at Emerson Hospital. Grandparents are Jane Wilson of Acton and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Berube of North Andover. Emma joins Peter.

CIANCIULLI - A son, Joshua Paul Cianciulli, born to Linda (Thistle) and Paul Cianciulli of Andover on March 1 at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. Grandparents are Marie Thistle and Martin and Miriam Cianciulli, all of Malden. Joshua joins Kyle, 3.

FERRERO - A daughter, Nicole Alyse Ferrero, born to Donna (Sinesky) and Vincent Marc Ferrero of Spring Valley Drive, on March 9 at Holy Family Hospital. Grandparents are Gilber and Barbara Ferrero of New Windsor, N.Y. and Douglas and Marlene Sinensky of Williamsville, N.Y.

FRUHBEIS - A son, Christopher Daniel Fruhbeis, born to Jennifer (Gagnon) and Todd Fruh-

beis of Weston, Conn. on Feb. 15. Grandparents are Daniel and Donna Gagnon of Andover and Francis and Nancy Fruhbeis of East Wakefield, N.H. Great-grandmothers are Sara Blue of East Brunswick, N.J. and Barbara Markell of Marlborough. Christopher joins Alexander, 2.

HASKELL - Twins, Mark Antonio and Sabine Alejandra Haskell, born to Jason and Nonnie Haskell of Maple Avenue on March 8 at Salem Hospital. Grandparents are Sam and Joyce Haskell of Stratham, N.H., Theresa Estella of New York City and the late Antonio Estella.

IMRIE - A daughter, Eleanor Margeret Imrie, born to Laura (Irwin) and Jeffrey Imrie of Andover on March 8 at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. Grandparents are Paul and Anne Irwin of Watsonville, Calif., Margaret and William Flanagan of Pound Ridge, N.Y., and Bruce and Nancy Imrie of Glens Falls, N.Y. Eleanor joins Cameron Stu-

art, 22 months.

MAHONEY - A daughter, Brianna Lee Mahoney, born to Andrea L. (McKech-nie) and James S. Mahoney of Dascomb Road on Feb. 17 at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. Grandparents are Robert M. and Joan E. McKech-nie of Natick, Jack and Mary Tucker of Atwater, Calif., and Edna Mahoney of Somerville.

RIVARD - A daughter, Kristina Marie Rivard, born to Jesse and Suzanne Rivard of Andover on Feb. 25 at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital. Grandparents are Richard and Suzanne Gianelly of Andover and Sue and Mike Rivard of Claremont, N.J. Kristina joins Logan, 2.

YOUNG - A son, Alden Beckett Young, born to Scott James and Helen Elizabeth Young of Sudbury on March 20 at Emerson Hospital. Grandparents are Robert and Theresa Gorey of Andover and John and Christine Beattie of Milford.

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OBITUARIES

Francis J. Byrne Former FinCom chairman, active in community service

Francis J. Byrne, 69, of North Andover and formerly of Andover, died Sunday, April 1 at home.

He was born in Lawrence and attended St. Laurence O'Toole Grammar School in Lawrence. He graduated from Central Catholic High School, class of 1949 and the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Class of 1953.

Mr. Byrne served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He received a master's degree in education from Boston State College and taught at Chelmsford High School prior to a 35-year career as a systems engineer in the aerospace industry.

His community service included the chairmanship of the Andover Finance Committee, the St. Robert Bellarmine Church Parish Council, the Andover Democratic town committee, and the Andover Historical Commission. He was an avid reader and his interests included computers, photography, gardening, and genealogy.

He was the widower of Carolyn (Baker) Byrne.

Members of his family include his daughters and sons-in-law, Maureen and Michael Gottfried of North Andover, Kathleen and Donald Gagnon of Salem, N.H., and Sheila and Matthew Barry of Andover; sons and daughters-in-law, Francis Jr. and Lisa Byrne and Kevin and Carla Byrne, all of Andover; 10 grandchildren; and special friend, Patricia

May of California.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated today, Thursday, April 5 at 10 a.m. at St. Robert Bellarmine Church, Andover. Burial will follow in the Immaculate Conception Cemetery, Lawrence.

Arrangements are by John Breen Memorial Funeral Home Inc. 35 Merrimack St., North Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Society of St. Vincent DePaul, care of St. Michael's Church, 196 Main St., North Andover, MA 01845.

Sarkis Krikorian Owned landscaping company

Sarkis Krikorian, 79, of Andover, died Sunday, April 1 at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen.

Mr. Krikorian owned Sam Krikorian Landscaping.

Born in Bridgewater, he attended Holy Cross Armenian Church in Lawrence.

Members of his family include his daughter, Susan Krikorian of Watertown; sister, Mary Cuticchia of Andover; several nephews; one niece; and longtime companion Leigh Shaw of Methuen.

Calling hours are Thursday, April 5 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Burke Funeral Home, 390 N. Main St.

A funeral Mass will be Friday, April 6 at 10 a.m. at Holy Cross Church in Lawrence. Burial will be in West Parish Garden Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Holy Cross Armenian Church, 54 E. Haverhill St., Lawrence, MA 01841.

Muriel E. Fleming Punchard High graduate

Muriel E. (Fettes) Fleming, 78, of Pelham, N.H. and formerly of Methuen, died Thursday, March 29 at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen.

Mrs. Fleming was a stitcher at local textile mills before she retired.

Born and educated in Andover, she graduated from Punchard High School.

She was the widow of John J. Fleming.

Members of her family include her son and daughter-in-law, John O. and Della Fleming of Dracut; daughters, Joan E. Murphy of Methuen, Gail E. Fleming and Lynn and her husband Jack Markey, all of Pelham, N.H., and June I. Keith and Lori D. Martin, both of Lawrence; brother, Hank Fettes of Venice, Fla.; sisters, Marion MacLachlan of Pelham, N.H., June McGowan of Tewksbury, Joan Fettes of Atkinson, N.H., Florence Lavoie of Bantam, Conn., and Dorothy Lonardo of Lawrence; 10 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were by Charles F. Dewhurst Funeral Home, 80 Broadway, Methuen.

Rita M. Houghton Former cook, weaver

Rita M. (Bourassa) Houghton, 86, formerly of North Andover, died Saturday, March 31 at Academy Manor Nursing Home.

Mrs. Houghton worked as a weaver in Lawrence mills, and was a cook at Three Pines Restaurant in Middleton.

She was the widow of Raymond W. Houghton.

Members of her family include daughters, Jeannette R. Davison and Nancy N. Houghton of North Andover; son, Robert R. and wife Joan Houghton of North Andover; three grandsons; and three step-great-granddaughters.

Arrangements were by Dewhurst & Conte Funeral Home, 17 Third St.,

(Continued on page 29)

OBITUARIES Pages 28-29

Theresa M. Abate, 75

Carol M. Aubin, 67

Francis J. Byrne, 69

Muriel E. Fleming, 78

Eliza J. Bateson, 95

Laura A. Borrelli, 73

Rita M. Houghton, 86

Sarkis Krikorian, 79

Elizabeth (Greene) Rabbitt

Bernadette A. Ricci, 80

Lorraine Roy, 70

Emma O. Stewart, 93

Deaths Elsewhere

ABATE - Theresa M. Abate, 75, a longtime Lawrence resident, died while vacationing in Florida.

Members of her family include her sister, Helen Sapuppo of Andover.

AUBIN - Carol M. (Nolet) Aubin, 67, of Lawrence, died Friday, March 30 at home.

Mrs. Aubin was an office clerk at Raytheon Co. in Andover for 23 years, and seasonally worked for the Internal Revenue Service.

BATESON - Eliza J. (Smith) Bateson, 95, of North Andover, died Monday, April 2 at Sutton Hill Center.

Members of her family include her son and daughter-in-law, James and Mary Bateson of Andover.

BORRELLI - Laura A. (Derouin) Borrelli, 73, a lifelong resident of Lawrence, died Sunday, April 1 at MI Nursing and Restorative Center.

Mrs. Borrelli worked as a group leader at Raytheon Corp. in Andover for 20 years.

ROY - Lorraine (Letourneau) DeLuca Roy, 70, of Austin, Texas, died Saturday, March 31 in Austin, Texas.

Mrs. Roy retired from Raytheon in Andover in 1990.

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Photos by Tim Jean

From left, Maureen Rosen, program leader Debbie Coltin, and Sandi Friedland take part in the first Women's Community Intergenerational Passover Seder in the Merrimack Valley. Sponsored by the Merrimack Valley Jewish Federation's Women's Division and the Sisterhoods of Temple Emanuel and Congregation Tifereth Israel of the Merrimack Valley of Lowell; Temple Emanuel of Haverhill; and the Greater Lawrence Chapter of Hadassah, the service and program took place last Thursday, March 29 at Temple Emanuel. Organizers called this Passover Seder, designed for and about Jewish women, the first of its kind in the greater Andover community.

OBITUARIES

Rita M. Houghton

(Continued from page 28)

North Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack St., Lawrence, MA 01843.

Bernadette A. Ricci

Formerly of Andover;
retired from Raytheon Corp.

Bernadette A. (Gingras) Ricci, 80, of Newburyport and formerly of Andover, died Sunday, April 1 at Anna Jaques Hospital.

Born in Lawrence, Mrs. Ricci owned and operated several variety stores in that city during the 1950s. She retired from Raytheon Corp. after 30 years of service.

Mrs. Ricci was a member of St.

Augustine Church in Andover, and enjoyed walking and swimming. She was one of 21 children.

Members of her family include her husband of 60 years Nicolas J. Ricci; sons and their wives, Nicolas J. Jr. and Beverly Ricci of Methuen, and Arthur J. and Jamie Ricci of Haverhill; daughter, Sharon L. and husband Donald Pattullo of Newburyport; sisters, Rita McClintock, Rose Mikolas and Theresa Gagnon, all of Methuen; brother, Joseph of California; 10 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were by Burke Funeral Home, 390 N. Main St., Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Elizabeth Rabbitt

Had six great-grandchildren

Elizabeth (Greene) Rabbitt, of Andover and formerly of Cambridge,

died Tuesday, April 3.

She was the widow of Michael J. Rabbitt.

Members of her family include her daughters and sons-in-law, Marion R. and Richard Towle of Durham, N.H., and Lorraine R. and Dan Sullivan of Andover; a son and daughter-in-law, Paul M. and Jane Rabbitt of North Andover; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Friends may call today, Thursday, April 5 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Stanton Funeral Home, 786 Mt. Auburn St. (Rte. 16), Watertown.

A funeral service will be held Friday, April 6 at 9:30 a.m. at the funeral home.

A Mass will be celebrated Friday, April 6 at 10:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church, Watertown. Burial will be in Cambridge Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Citizens League For Adult Special Services, 1 Parker St. Lawrence, MA 01843.

Emma O. Stewart

Active in the Masonic Lodge

Emma O. (Savageau) Stewart, 93, formerly of Methuen, died at Wingate Nursing Home after a long illness.

Born in Winchendon, Mrs. Stewart was active in the Masonic Lodge, and was a member of Eastern Star and the Shrine in Salem, Mass.

She was the widow of John H. Stewart. Members of her family include sons, James R. Stewart of Salem, Arthur D. Stewart of Brewster and John R. Stewart of Lyme, N.H.; daughter, Margaret O. Stewart of Methuen; 19 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was mother of the late Howard W. Stewart and Anita E. Dash.

Arrangements were by Murphy Funeral Home, 85 Federal St., Salem.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wingate Nursing Home Resident Council, 80 Andover St., Andover, 01810.

NEWS FOR SENIORS

(Continued from page 27)

pitcher or vase and join us for a fun and creative afternoon. Pre-registration is necessary so that we can plan for an adequate amount of supplies.

Health Forum: The Andover Board of Health will sponsor a program on colon cancer on Monday, April 23 at 1:30 p.m. at the senior center. Come and find out more about this serious but preventable disease. Literature as well as screening kits will be available. Please call the center and plan to attend this important presentation.

Woodcarving: On Monday, April 23 we will begin our

spring session of woodcarving with Fred Arakelian. Class will meet at 9 a.m. for eight weeks at a cost of \$20. Some carving experience is helpful. Please register at the center prior to the first class or call Fred at 475-4983 for further information.

Suzuki & Supper: We invite you to join us on Wednesday, April 25 at 4 p.m. when we will be treated to a special performance by Suzuki Strings of Andover, followed by a pizza supper. Suzuki Strings is a group of students, aged 3 to 12, who will be performing works by Mozart, Beethoven, Suzuki, and Bach.

Tickets for the performance and supper are \$2 and are available at the center on a first come basis.

Needleart Class: Instructor Carolyn Mattedi will begin a new ten week session of needle art class on Monday, April 9 at 1:45 p.m. Assistance is available in various techniques including silk ribbon, embroidery, cross-stitch, crewel and more. Work on your own project, or the instructor can help you decide. Ten week course is \$25.

Men's Breakfast: All interested senior men are cordially invited to join us on Friday, April 20 at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast followed by an informative presentation "Heart Smart For Men" with well-known cardiologist Dr. Manning Curtis.

Reservations are \$3 and may be made by calling the center at 623-8321.

Golf Lessons: We are again sponsoring golf lessons this year in cooperation with the Garrison Golf Center in Haverhill. If you're a beginner or would like to polish up your swing and fine tune your strokes we will be offering a four session program on Monday April 23 and 30, and May 7 and 14 at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$50, which includes equipment and instruction. Call the center if you would like to register.

Fitness Walk & Training Station Class: We will be offering an eight week outdoor fitness walk and training station class on Wednesdays from 9:30

to 10:30 a.m. with a free demonstration class scheduled for April 25. If you'd like to learn more about this exercise opportunity or try out the class just come to the center at the above time and join in. Session begins the following week at a cost of \$20 and pre-registration is necessary.

Foreign Language Instruction: These classes will be a continuation of our fall instructional courses or for those with equivalent experience. French will get underway on Tuesday, April 24 at 9:30 a.m. and Spanish will resume on Friday, April 27 at 2 p.m. Each class runs for ten weeks at a cost of \$25. Anyone interested is asked to register prior to the first class.

Business

Business briefs...

State treasurer times two

MONEY CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN PLANNED

State Treasurer Shannon O'Brien and the YWCA are teaming up and sponsoring a money conference for women.

The event is Saturday, April 7 at the Ramada Rolling Green Conference Center in Andover.

The Money Conference for Women will provide women with the necessary tools to begin the financial planning process or build on their current investment strategy. The free, day-long conference is designed for women of all ages, incomes, and levels of financial knowledge, according to a release.

For information call 617-367-6900 or visit <www.moneyconferenceforwomen.com>.

AT MV CHAMBER

O'Brien is also the guest speaker at an upcoming breakfast meeting hosted by the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce.

O'Brien will be at the Wednesday, April 11 meeting. At this forum, the treasurer will address the relationship between the treasurer's office and the local business community. The meeting will be at Jackson's Riverside Restaurant. The cost is \$15 and breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m.

For information, call the chamber at 978-686-0900 or visit <www.merrimackvalley-chamber.com>.

Verizon calling on rink greats to raise money for charity Andover workers to toe line with Bruins



Team Verizon will soon take the ice to take on an alumni squad of Big, Bad Bruins.

By Rebecca Piro

Several employees of the communications giant Verizon, many of whom work in Andover, will face off against an unusual opponent this month. It's not another phone company or the Massachusetts Coalition for Competitive Phone Service. It's a team of former Boston Bruins.

The former members of the Bruins will face off with Team Verizon Sunday, April 22 at the Salem, N.H. Icecenter to raise money for the Mass. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA).

Verizon team member Tim Cormay started thinking about the challenge after he refereed his brother's Waltham Youth Hockey team against the Bruins' alumni last year for a fund raiser. That experience alone was overwhelming, he says.

"It was amazing. I grew up watch-

ing these same Bruins, and standing there next to them, talking to them, was just fabulous."

Actually playing against the Bruins is quite another thing, however.

"We're pretty good," Cormay says. Team Verizon is currently in first place in their league, which pits them once a week against other company teams in the Merrimack Valley. Still, one must put that statement into perspective before playing against Bruins greats like Kenny Hodge, Kenny Hodge Jr., Andy Brickley, John Bucyck and Terry O'Reilly.

"We know we're going to get beat," laughs member Tim Cormay. "We're just out there having fun. It's the thrill of going up against them."

Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under, and interested individuals can contact Cormay at 978-837-6147 to purchase them.

Fans attending the game will get a chance to meet the former Bruins and have them sign autographs.

Cormay isn't too worried about Team Verizon members needing some fundraising money themselves for medical bills after playing against former professionals. Unlike the rough play that Bruins' games usually guarantee, Cormay expects only "casual contact" between players.

"I'm 40, my job means a lot to me, and I don't feel like getting hurt," says Cormay. "You're not out there getting body-checked like you see on TV."

Of course, the former Bruins themselves may not be all that they once were, he adds. "The majority of the Bruins we're playing against are all well over 40," he says, such as Bucyck, who is in his 60s. "They're not planning to get hurt either."

YMCA looking for a few good businesswomen

The YMCA of Greater Lawrence is pleased to call for nominations for the 18th annual Tribute to Women in Business and Industry. It will be held Tuesday, May 15, at the Andover Country Club at 11:30 a.m.

Since 1983, the Tribute to Women in Business in Industry has recognized more than 400 Merrimack Valley women leaders from large and small companies in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. Proceeds of the annual sell-out luncheon underwrite YWCA after-school, child-care, teen-parenting, health and domestic-violence programs, which serve the Massachusetts communities of Andover, Lawrence, Methuen and North Andover, and Salem, N.H.

The keynote address will be delivered by Judith Williams, co-author of *The Shadow Negotiation: How Women Can Master the Hidden Agendas that Deter-*

mine Bargaining Success. The book was named one of the top business books of 2000 by Harvard Business Review. Williams, of Boston, is an organizational change consultant.

"The Tribute to Women in Business and Industry honors area women of professional achievement and civic commitment," said event co-chair Carol Bateson, of Andover and CEO of Dec-Tam Corp. in North Reading. "We honor women from all professional and cultural backgrounds. It's a day to recognize both the individual achievements of particular women and their collective impact on the business and civic community."

"The luncheon celebration underwrites the YWCA's key programs for women and children," said YWCA Executive Director Rebecca A. Hall. "In addition, special sponsorships underwrite girls to attend the event. The girls come

back from the luncheon with great enthusiasm and renewed confidence in their own dreams."

Steering Committee members include Carol Bateson, of Andover, CEO of DEC-TAM Corp. of Andover; Janice E. Burkholder of Andover, staff director to Sen. Susan Tucker; Virginia D. Barrelle of Lowell, membership director of the Association of General Contractors of Massachusetts; Paula J. Fines, of Tewksbury, director, technical support services, optical products at Lucent Technologies; Mary H. Dow, of Methuen, president of The Dow Co. of Methuen; Ruth A. Keen of North Andover, certified nurse midwife and co-director of Clinical Services at Midwives of the Merrimack Valley; Mary Jane Powell of Andover, treasurer of the Massachusetts Democratic State Committee; Susan Big, of Andover, financial consultant at Merrill Lynch; and Carolyn



Luncheon committee members Carol Bateson, Mary Dow and Susan Big at a recent reunion of Tribute honorees.

B. Temmallo of Chelmsford, president, Training Unlimited of Lowell and director of education and training at Financial Fusion Inc. of Watertown.

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Professional Profile



Dr. Christopher R. Condon and his son, Daniel-Hunter

Andover Spine Center

Have you been experiencing headaches, neck pain, back pain, fibromyalgia, chronic ear aches or upper respiratory difficulties, whiplash syndrome, carpal tunnel syndrome, etc.? These common problems are often times ignored or treated incorrectly for such a long period of time that they then become chronic. At Andover Spine Center we utilize state-of-the-art techniques to eliminate pain at the structural sources. "Many people have come to my office as a last resort- they've tried everything with only short-term relief of their pain. We emphasize structural correction of the body's imbalances to restore normal function and eliminate pain syndromes. Most of the time we can trace people's problems to biological abnormalities that can be corrected without drugs or surgery," stated Andover Spine Center Director, Dr. Christopher R. Condon.

Dr. Condon continued, saying "The methods we use are supported by the finest medical research...everything we do is state-of-the-art in terms of applying treatment plans based on cutting-edge science. Many of our patients have responded to treatment so well that they've

been able to avoid surgery- it's really amazing to see how non-invasive methods work for so many different types of ailments."

When asked to describe the different types of care available at Andover Spine Center, Dr. Condon describes how skilled spinal adjustments are utilized to restore normal joint motion, physical therapy protocols are initiated to help heal injured soft-tissues, and consultations and evaluations are often coordinated with area orthopedic and neuro-surgeons to offer each patient the most well-rounded care available. "When it comes to patient care, we see that all avenues are covered and that every option is considered. We want people to know that our facility is well equipped with the finest diagnostic equipment including high-speed radiology and paraspinal thermal imaging as well as the most up to date treatment regimens. But we also want to point out that we are a multi-disciplinary philosophy and therefore often coordinate care with other medical professionals to ensure the patient is receiving all of the necessary tests and treatments before we accept them as candidates for spinal correction."

Dr. Condon specializes in the correction and rehabilitation of auto and work related injuries. He is a Board Certified Chiropractic Physician and is a member of the Massachusetts Chiropractic Society, Massachusetts Association for Chiropractic Philosophy, Merrimack Valley Chiropractic Society, International Chiropractic Association, American Chiropractic Association, and is the author of dozens of published articles on subjects ranging from philosophy, athletics, politics, and self-motivation skills. He has completed extensive post-graduate study in athletic performance and in injury rehabilitation of the whiplash victim.

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LETTERS

(Continued from page 10)

of representatives from these boards at public hearings.)

Our other concerns regarding the meeting:

- True to form, AvalonBay presented "new" proposals (e.g. density, site plan) and information (e.g. school impact) at the very last minute. This gave neither the ZBA nor concerned residents any time to assess this information or properly prepare their questions/arguments.

- Questions from the residents regarding the decision process and criteria were, for the most part, left unanswered. The best answer we received from the ZBA on the evaluation of comprehensive permits was that it's "an amorphous process" with "no set standards." Not much of an answer in our opinion!

- Questions from the ZBA or audience regarding the legalities of Chapter 40B were usually referred to Bob Lavoie, an Andover lawyer who represents the developer. (Mr. Lavoie also seemed to be speaking on behalf of the town's planning director and the Andover Housing Partnership Committee (AHPC) at different points in the meeting.) Isn't this a conflict of interest? Shouldn't the ZBA, as the local deciding authority, be "experts" on comprehensive permits in their own right? Or, at

the very least, use legal counsel representing the town? Where was the AHPC, who is supposed to be an advisor to the ZBA and the mediator between the developer and neighborhoods?

We fully understand the demands on the ZBA at this point with five comprehensive permits on their docket. (The AvalonBay 40B application is the first that they have dealt with in over 10 years.) The ZBA is a volunteer committee whose commitment is certainly appreciated. They are in a difficult position. Despite the "anti-snob" state laws (currently being challenged with more than two dozen amendments before the legislature) and pressure from AvalonBay, the ZBA must remember that they ultimately represent the interests of the town and its residents – not the state and developer.

Eileen and Bill Standerwick
8 Quail Run

Andover needs housing plan to control building

Editor, *Townsmen*:

No one is in charge in the town of Andover. That is what we learned at last Monday night's hearing of the Zoning Board of

Appeals concerning the proposed high-density apartment development for River Road.

The town must take control of the application process for comprehensive general permits and review such applications with an eye towards how the proposed permits, taken together and in the context of Andover's current housing market, will assist the town in achieving its goal of making affordable housing available while minimizing the negative impacts such projects will cause to our environment, our neighborhoods, and to our costs in providing the many town services that make Andover a desirable community. After such a review process, the town would come to the unassailable conclusion that the proposed River Road development must be rejected because it is unduly burdensome on the environment and the town, and because, as proposed, it is not reasonably calculated towards assisting the town in achieving the Commonwealth's statutory affordable housing goals.

As it was explained to the people who attended the ZBA hearing, the developer is entitled to have its 136-unit (on nine acres) development considered by the ZBA, notwithstanding the fact that the proposal indisputably would violate nearly all applicable zoning bylaws, because of the alleged "affordable housing" portion of the development under the Commonwealth's "anti-snob zoning" law, chapter 40B. The ZBA chairman also explained that the town may deny the proposed development (or approve it with substantial changes and conditions) if the ZBA determines the proposal is not reasonably calculated to assist the town in achieving the Commonwealth's affordable housing goal of making 10 percent of the town's housing stock available as "affordable housing."

Although the town's affordable housing rate of 9.03 percent ranks it in the top 10 percent in the Commonwealth among all communities in the effort to provide affordable housing, the town of Andover apparently has no articulated plan to reach that goal. Perhaps more troubling, the ZBA members expressed their belief that they were constrained to review each comprehensive general permit proposal in a vacuum, without regard to considering the context of the town's other present and future efforts in reaching and maintaining the statutory goal.

Even more troubling, the ZBA chairman explained that the ZBA had not received any input from any other town department concerning the project, including no input from the Conservation Commission (notwithstanding the fact that the developer has proposed construction within wetland buffer zones in violation of the wetlands act), the Planning Board, the Housing Partnership and the selectmen.

One man from the audience asked the ZBA

chairman "Who is the town?" (i.e. who's in charge here?). Neither he nor the townspeople in attendance could understand the buck-passing explanations provided. Another person suggested that the proposal should be considered in the context of the six other proposals for similar developments, while another woman expressed concern that there are many affordable housing units in Andover that are not being counted toward the statutory goal. The ZBA chairman's response was simply, "We're just volunteers... I'm not the one in charge."

I should add that I truly empathize with the members of the ZBA and the chairman in particular. They are indeed volunteers who serve because they care about their town, its environment, its quality of life, and its efforts to educate our children and to protect the health and safety of its residents. They are community-minded people who deserve nothing but thanks for their thankless work.

Nevertheless, the town cannot remain a victim to disingenuous developers who abuse the anti-snob zoning statute against a town like Andover (which is a leading community in creating affordable housing) in an effort to profit unfairly from a massive, high-density development at the expense of the environment, the neighborhood, the school system, and the entire town. The town needs a plan, and it needs to review the proposed high-density River Road development in the context of other efforts and other pending applications that will advance the town's plan for achieving the statutory housing goal. Without a plan, we are helpless victims who lamely react to proposed projects and fail to manage the process for the benefit of the town and its future residents.

After a responsible and comprehensive review, the town (i.e. the ZBA with input from the relevant town departments) should reject the present high-density development proposal for River Road.

Christopher T. Vrontas
379 River Road

Town: only sink money into land proven clean

Editor, *Townsmen*:

I am writing in regards to the proposal by the town of Andover to purchase land at the former Reichhold Chemical plant.

I don't believe that Andover should consider purchasing the former Reichhold Chemical property until a very thorough and objective investigation is done. Can we really trust a private environmental consultant hired by Reichhold for a completely objective assessment? What will this property look like in five to 10 years when the topsoil and grass are worn away? Is the town of Andover willing to conduct annual inspections of the ground for seepage of chemicals coming back up to the surface? Do we really know from any research on brownfields what the condition of the ground will be over five, 10 or 20 years?

Our environment has a direct effect on our health. The level of both breast and colon cancer are higher in Andover than in most of Massachusetts. As a senior nursing student I help care for pediatric cancer patients. Cancer is a terrible disease for both the patients and their families. Does our town really want to take on the responsibility of this property? I know our town desperately needs more recreational land, but not at the potential risk of our health.

Mari Miceli
Arundel Street

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Sports

Tennis and girls lacrosse teams brimming with confidence

By Rick Harrison

The Townsman concludes previews of Andover High varsity sports teams for the 2001 spring season today with a look at girls tennis, boys tennis and girls lacrosse.

GIRLS TENNIS

Although the Andover High girls tennis team is beginning the 2001 season with essentially an all-new starting lineup, veteran head coach Tony Russo is anything but apprehensive.

"It's pretty interesting the way the team is shaping up," said Russo. "We graduated our top two singles players and

second doubles team, while our third singles moved out of town, but I don't think we'll skip a beat. Considering who we lost it's going to be another very strong lineup."

That means business as usual for the Lady Warriors, who won their 12th straight Merrimack Valley Conference championship last spring with an 18-0 regular season record.

The locals then clicked off consecutive Division 1 North Tournament wins over Acton-Boxboro (4-1), Bishop Fenwick of Peabody (5-0) and Concord-Carlisle (5-0) before dropping a 3-2 decision to Lexington in the North final.

Until the Lexington match

Andover, 21-1 overall, had posted 18 sweeps by 5-0 scores and three other 4-1 victories.

That showing stretched the AHS girls MVC win streak to an incredible 165 straight matches since a 3-2 loss to Lowell way back on May 21, 1990.

The Lady Warriors are also 238-1 in their last 239 MVC matches and 259-15 in their last 274 matches including non-league and tournament play.

The key graduates were three-time Conference Player of the Year Jill Oppenheim, No. 2 singles and two-time All-Conference Amy Axelrod, and All-Conference doubles players Erica Tebbetts and Jenna Bernstein.

Oppenheim reached the Round-of-16 in last year's North Sectional Individual Singles Tournament.

Third singles Ashley Heller, a junior, moved to Long Island.

All five departed players were undefeated in MVC matches last spring.

Heading the roster this April are senior Capt. Michelle Leahy and Erin Zuena. Both were All-Conference doubles players a year ago and may end up as the No. 1 and 2 singles this year.

Other senior returners are Jessica Bindman and Ashley Hargadon, who may split time between singles and doubles play.

Junior veterans are Carolyn Purcell and Lynn Spitzer, both of whom hope to step in at one of the top three singles slots.

Sophomore second-year varsity players are Laura Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Magner, Ellen Hodges, Jenicka Hornung, Betsy Pierce and Lauren Woo.

Fitzgerald and Magner teamed at second doubles several times last year.

Completing the 18-player roster are sophomore Angela Shockley and freshmen Marsha Mogilevich, Brittany Roy, Wendy Chen, Stephanie Hargadon and Alyssa Bindman.

Shockley is a transfer student from Minnesota and she, along with Mogilevich and Roy, look like they could crack the

starting lineup.

"It's actually a good combination of returning players and new faces," said Russo, who begins his 15th season at the helm.

"Two teams that could give us good matches this year are Central Catholic and Chelmsford," noted the coach. "Central, in particular, has started to develop some good players."

The regular season is scheduled to start tomorrow afternoon at Notre Dame Academy in Tyngsboro, followed by three matches on consecutive days next Monday at Haverhill, Tuesday home versus Tewksbury and Wednesday home against Methuen (all 3:30 p.m.).

Although no non-league matches/scrimmages have been officially scheduled, coach Russo is trying to work out meetings with Reading, Phillips Academy, North Andover and Manchester (Ma.).

BOYS TENNIS

Not many teams can graduate an All-Scholastic and three All-Conference players and still feel as confident as ever about winning another league title.

The Andover High boys tennis juggernaut shouldn't have many worries as it shoots for its eighth straight Merrimack Valley Conference championship and 15th in 17 years.

The Golden Warriors return two of their top three singles players and a starting doubles team from last year, when the locals went 14-0 in league play and 16-3 overall including non-league and tournament matches.

AHS, which had a scare from Central Catholic before winning its regular season finale, 3-2, beat Central 4-1 and Arlington 5-0 in the first two rounds of the Division 1 North Tournament before being ousted 3-2 by Reading.

Graduates from that team are All-Conference No. 1 singles Evan Sideman (attending the University of Hartford), All-Scholastic doubles Pete Hughes (Roanoke, Va. College), Mike Meagher (UMass Amherst), Dave Guertin (Plymouth State) and Paul Adams. Hughes was one half of a

doubles team that won five matches last spring to advance to the North Sectional Championship final, where it lost to the eventual champs from St. John's Prep.

Sideman won three singles matches before being ousted in the Round-of-16, and Meagher was half a doubles team that battled to the third round of the North Sectionals.

Topping the list of nine returning lettermen are senior Capt. Gabe Adams, Rich Roda and Steve Hibino.

Adams, playing No. 2 singles last spring, went undefeated in the MVC and finished 9-4 overall.

Roda played mostly third singles, stepped in occasionally at No. 2 and went undefeated in the MVC and 13-3 overall.

Hibino and senior James Kim formed one of three doubles teams that rotated as starters last year.

Junior Andy Chiaraluce earned All-Scholastic honors as Hughes' partner, the pair finishing with a 13-1 overall record.

Sophomore Jason Lynn teamed with Meagher to go 14-2 and earn All-Conference recognition.

Other lettermen are senior Sky Chien (singles last year), junior Andrew Ong (doubles) and sophomore Alex Cline (singles and doubles).

First-year seniors elevated from the junior varsity are Andy Turow and Dave Wholey.

New varsity juniors are Will Chen, Nick Culver, Dan Rubin, Nick Vaccaro and Mike Weisner who transferred from Lawrence Academy in Groton.

Completing the 19-player squad are freshmen Brian Axelrod, Avi Lasser and California transfer Max Chistyranov.

Coach Mike Wartman launches his 17th season with a team that has won 126 straight MVC matches since a 3-2 loss to Chelmsford on May 20, 1992.

Andover boys teams are 246-9 in their last 255 conference matches and 282-33 in their last 315 matches including non-league and tournament play.

"We have a number of

(Continued on page 34)



The record-breaking 400-yard relay team from the North Shore YMCA Sharks is, from left: Lauren Harlow of Andover, Sara Buckley of Swampscott, Nicole Zarba of Beverly, and Jessica Davidson of Beverly.

Sharks blow everyone out of the water

Five Andover athletes contributed as the North Shore YMCA Sharks co-ed swim and dive team beat its closest rival by more than 1,200 points to win the two-day New England 'Y' Championship Meet held at Brown University in Providence, R.I.

The victory was an unprecedented sixth straight New England winter season title for North Shore, which collected 2,714 points to top a 73-team field from the six-state region.

Lauren Harlow swam the anchor leg for the 400 yard free relay team, which broke a 23-year-old meet record by three seconds with a winning time of 3:41.35.

Lauren Harlow also placed first in the girls 15-18 age-group 200 yard freestyle (1:58.72), while younger sister Diana Harlow touched first in the girls 13-14 age-group 100 backstroke (1:02.31).

Caitlin Hamer was sixth in the girls 15-18 division 200 free (2:00.39), and younger sister Courtney Hamer finished ninth in the girls 11-12 division 100 butterfly (1:10.94).

On the boys side, Patrick Roulon-Miller was 13th in the 15-18 division 100 backstroke (1:01.30).

The Sharks are now preparing for the YMCA Short Course National Championships April 9-12 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Openings are available for new swimmers for the summer season which runs April 30 through July. New swimmer registration will take place April 23, 24 and 25 at 5:30 p.m. at the Salem, Ipswich, Beverly (Sterling Center) and Marblehead/Swampscott YMCA branches.

Boys varsity volleyball team kicks off the season in style

By Rick Harrison

The Andover High boys varsity volleyball team launched the 2001 spring season with a character-building come-from-behind 2-1 victory over host Central Catholic in their Merrimack Valley Conference opener.

The Golden Warriors appeared on the way to a blowout after a 15-3 romp in the first game.

But Central squared the match with a 15-10 triumph in game two.

Andover fell behind 11-3 in the deciding game before rallying to outscore the Raiders 14-4 on the way to a 17-15 overtime victory.

"We did some good things and some bad things," said veteran coach George Sullivan. "But the highlight was obviously the terrific comeback in the third game."

"Most of our mistakes — and our inconsistency — came from inexperience. This was the first varsity match for many of these kids and they could feel the pressure."

"There were some mental mistakes — but overall we played aggressively and that's a good sign," added Sullivan.

"Our kids could easily have given up in the third game but instead they buckled down and fought back hard."

AHS finished the marathon match 76-for-96 hitting, 95-for-114 in serve-receive and 64-for-72 serving.

"The serve-receive percentage wasn't bad," said Sullivan, "and our serving was better than it was in the Play Days."

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

ANDOVER 2, CENTRAL CATHOLIC 1

at Lawrence

Andover	15	10	17
Central Catholic	3	15	15

Individual Statistics

Hitting: A, Josh Brooks 20-for-23; Alan MacLean 18-for-19; Elliot Perkins 12-for-17; Andy Carter 11-for-15; David Hsu 10-for-14; Steve Johnson 6-for-11. **Kills:** A, Brooks 4, Perkins 2, MacLean 1. **Serving:** A, Mike Chabot 10-for-10; MacLean 10-for-11; Stu Smilowitz 10-for-11; Johnson 9-for-9; Tim An 5-for-5; Brooks 1-for-1; Carter 1-for-2. **Service Aces:** A, None.

Team Statistics

Hitting: AHS, 76-for-96. **Serving:** AHS, 64-for-72. **Serve-Receive:** AHS, 95-for-114.
JV Score: Andover 2, Central Catholic 1.

We have to improve the hitting, however. We made too many errors."

Capt. Josh Brooks led the hitting with 20-for-23, and he also produced four of the team's seven kills.

Capt. Alan MacLean was 18-for-19 hitting, with one kill, and 10-for-11 serving.

Other top hitters were Andy Carter (11-for-15), junior middle hitter Elliot Perkins (12-for-17, two kills), sophomore middle hitter Steve Johnson (6-for-11) and sophomore David Hsu (10-for-14).

Mike Chabot finished 10-for-10 serv-

ing, Johnson was 9-for-9, junior Stu Smilowitz 10-for-11 and sophomore Tim An 5-for-5.

Smilowitz also did a good job setting.

The Andover JVs opened with a 2-1 win over Central by game scores of 16-14, 12-15 and 15-9.

Sophomore Ryan Donahue and Sean Cummings both played solid all-around matches.

Andover hosted Lawrence yesterday, afternoon *Townsmen* presstime, and travels to Methuen tomorrow afternoon (4 p.m.).

Elsewhere on the AHS varsity sports scene this week, two boys lacrosse games, two girls lacrosse games, a track meet and a baseball game were postponed because of unplayable field conditions.

All will be made up later this spring, including the track meet at Tewksbury on April 30 and a girls lacrosse game at Arlington on May 14.

AHS ROUNDUP

(Continued from page 33)

returning kids who have improved a lot since last year," said Wartman. "It's exciting to see the players working at the sport in the off-season."

"Our pre-season indoor practices were very encouraging, and once we sort things out I think we're going to be a very good team."

Chelmsford and Central Catholic appear to have the best chance at challenging Andover for MVC supremacy.

The regular season opener is next Monday at home against Haverhill, and the Golden Warriors travel to

Methuen next Wednesday (3:30 p.m. matches).

Non-league matches are set at Phillips Academy (April 13), home against reigning State Division 2 champ Concord-Carlisle (May 1) and at St. John's Prep in Danvers (May 10).

GIRLS LACROSSE

The newest varsity sport on the Andover High block is girls lacrosse.

After spending last year as a club team, the Lady Warriors have stepped up to the highest level and intend to make their presence felt in the North

League this spring.

"We haven't set any specific first-year goals except to be competitive in every game," said head coach Ryan Polley, a Pennsylvania native who played his collegiate lacrosse locally at Merrimack College.

"We have a number of girls with excellent stickhandling skills and good foot speed. The work ethic is excellent and quite a few of our players have outstanding lacrosse presence."

"They see the field well and they can finish off the plays. I don't know how we'll fare against the more established programs — but I'm sure we'll compete favorably with the other first- and second-year teams," noted Polley, a

Tewksbury accountant taking on his first head-coaching job.

The program attracted a fine turnout of 55 candidates, and there were no key graduates from coach Nancy Hamilton's 2000 club team.

Four senior captains are expected to lead the way this spring, second-year goalie Vivian Crossley, defender Claudia Soo Hoo, midfielder Jill Mann and attack Ashley Troutman.

"Defensively we'll be quick and strong, while on offense Troutman has the potential to score quite a few points," said Polley, who played high school lacrosse in the Philadelphia suburb of Downingtown, Pa.

Other varsity defenders are juniors Suzanne Callanen and

Anna Kichorowsky, along with sophomores Laura Denison, Ashley Hegarty (fastest player on team), Katie Seero, Lindsay Mann and Vaughan MacKenzie.

Joining Troutman on the attack will be sophomore twins Diana and Demorie Crawford and juniors Krissy Leonard, Emily Shear, Jessica Moody and Ashley Collins.

Additional midfielders and wings are juniors Alice Gregory and Pauline Jun, sophomores Grace Farnham, Ginny Williams, Katie Stewart and Amanda Gallant and freshman Ali McCoy.

Gallant possesses the hardest shot on the team and field hockey scoring leader Farnham has lacrosse in her blood as her dad and three uncles, were All-American laxmen at Brown University.

Andover will compete in the North League with established teams like Billerica, Beverly, Ipswich, Marblehead and Masconomet Regional and other newcomers including North Andover and Tyngsboro.

The season opener was supposed to be at Arlington this past Tuesday, but unplayable field conditions forced postponement of that game until May 14.

At presstime it appeared this afternoon's game at Beverly would also be postponed, which would set the opener back to next Tuesday at home against Ipswich (3:30 p.m.).

Home games will be played at the Doherty Middle School Field.

Tim Smith is the AHS junior varsity coach.

Bradford Ski Team wraps up winning season, finishes third in championships



The Bradford Ski Team ended their season with a banquet and a winning record. The team won three of their six meets. On March 4, the team finished third at the Eastern B.W.L. championships held at Nashoba Valley Ski Area. The top three point scorers in each age group were awarded trophies. Andover residents and high scorers were Erin Christopher, Sara Heath, Cayley Christopher, Amberly Tenney, Sean Ehlbeck, Gavin Lynch, Colleen Heath, Kayla Fosse, Harrison Sanders, Ben Nelson, Mallory Jaracz, Doug Heath, Erik Fosse, Daniel Conrad, and Sherri Conrad.

◀ Front row, from left, are: Molly Lynch, Erin Christopher, Maddy Caron, Sara Heath; middle row: Gavin Lynch, Sean Ehlbeck, Eric Heath, Colleen Heath, Sander Caron, Amy Caron; back row: Mallory Jaracz, Lisa Tylus, Lauren Underhill, Cayley Christopher, Amberly Tenney, Erik Fosse, and Doug Heath.

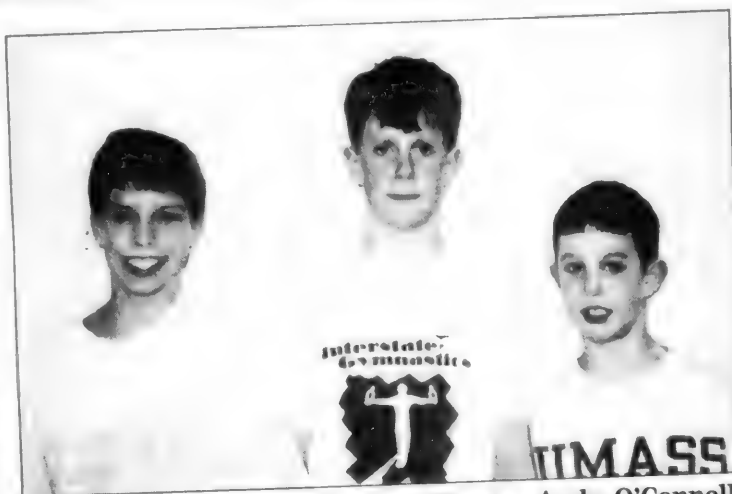
LOCAL ATHLETES



In the swim — Alex Cronin (left) and Tim Kearney, along with the other two members of the St. John's Prep 200 Medley Relay team, have been selected as Globe All-Scholastic. They received this honor for their performance at the MIAA Men's Division I Swimming and Diving State Championships held Feb. 24. Kearney, a sophomore, led off the event with the backstroke, and Cronin, a senior, swam freestyle as the anchor. The St. Augustine School graduates both live in Andover.

The Division I Swimming and Diving Title was awarded to St. John's Prep Eagles swim team recently at Northeastern University. Led by senior captain Brendan Griffin, the Eagles (214) dominated the pool, easily defeating defending champion Acton-Boxboro (183).

Three local swimmers provided some of the depth for which St. John's has become well known. Early in the meet, Griffin posted a 6th place finish in the 200 IM (2:03.11). Griffin currently holds the school's record in this event. He helped put some space between the Eagles and their competitors by also placing 5th in the 500 free (4:57.22). Senior Alex Cronin swam a fourth-place finish in the 100 Free (50.06), while sophomore swimmer Tim Kearney placed second in the 100 Back



From left are gymnasts Joshua Torres, Andy O'Connell, and Bryan Burkhard, all of Andover, who competed for Interstate Gymnastics at the Mass. State Gymnastics Championship.

with a 55.57. Cronin and Kearney also swam on the second place Medley Relay, which started the momentum for the

Prep.

The Prep Eagles have had a series of successes this season.

(Continued on page 36)

Warrior Summer Baseball School plans three weekly sessions

The eighth annual Andover Warrior Summer Baseball School will run in three weekly sessions June 25-29, July 9-13 and July 16-20 at the West Middle School field complex.

The camp is for youngsters ages seven to 15 years.

Daily sessions start at 8:30 a.m. and run until 2 p.m.

Highlights include drill stations for specific fundamentals.

All participants must have updated physical and immunization forms.

For more information, call Ken Maglio at 978-623-8709.

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LOCAL ATHLETES

(Continued from page 35)

They defended their title as Catholic Conference Champions, beating their rivals BC High by nearly 50 points, placed second at North Sectionals in Haverhill several weeks ago, and gave the Prep their first State Title in Swimming in the school's history.

Three Andover boys competed for Interstate Gymnastics at the Massachusetts State Gymnastics Championship in Sterling, Mass., on March 17 and 18.

Bryan Burkhard, 8, a 2nd-grader from Shawsheen Elementary, Joshua Torres, 10, a 4th-grader from West Elementary, and Andy O'Connell, 12, a 6th-grader from West Middle School, all participated. This was Bryan's first year competing in Class 6 and he received an all-around score of 39.3, with over 100 boys in attendance.

Joshua and Andy competed in Class 5 for their respective age brackets with more than 55 boys in attendance. Joshua placed 3rd on the Vault (9.0), 5th on the Parallel Bars (7.6) and placed 7th overall (42.3). Invitation for Regionals in this age bracket took only 6 places, so Joshua missed by one place.

Andy's all-around score was a 43.7, which qualified him to go to the Region 6 Championship at the University of Vermont on March 31st. Region 6 consists of all the New England States, New York and New Jersey. Andy's consistent performance on all 6 events qualified

him.

Qualifying for the States is by invitation. The gymnasts must score over 40 in one of their meets. Qualifying for Regionals is by place, which becomes more difficult.

Andy competed in the Regional Championship at University of Vermont on Saturday, March 31. Over 80 boys were competing in the Class 5's, which Andy was in. He placed 17th overall with a combined score of 48.5.

Katie Infantine, of Andover, competed at the 2001 Starlight Invitational Gymnastics Meet on Jan. 14.

The meet was held at the DuPont Athletic Center on the campus of MIT.

Infantine competed at Level 8 in the 13-14-year-old division. She took first place in all four individual events as well as the all-around. Katie received a 9.125 on vault. She bested all competitors on floor and bars with a 9.4 on each event. Her beam score was 9.45. Katie's all-around score was 37.375.

Katie competes for Walker's Gymnastics in Lowell and is coached by Jessica Wilkey.

Gymnast Katherine Yao, a freshman at Andover High School, has qualified for the USA Gymnastics (USAG) Level 9 State Championships. USAG governs the sport of gymnastics, ranging from Levels 1-10 then into the Elite - Olympic Program. Level 9 is the first



Katherine Yao

level in which gymnasts compete to qualify for States, Regionals, and finally, the Eastern Championships, the highest Level 9 competition.

A team member at Northeast Gymnastics Center in Tewksbury, and in her second Level 9 competitive season, Katherine trains in 4-hour sessions 5 days a week, with increased hours in the summer. During her 2000-01 competitive season (November through April) Katherine advanced from local competitions to sectional meets, where she then obtained the required score of 32.00 all-around (AA) to qualify for the State Competition. Through the sport, Katherine has also had the opportunity to travel. Her most

recent trip was to Las Vegas in January, where she won first place in vault at the Lady Luck Invitational. This season, Katherine also won several local and invitational meets, and qualified to enter the Level 10 program next season by achieving the required score of 34.00 AA. Recently, Katherine achieved her personal best all-around score of 35.00 AA.

Katherine was scheduled to compete at the State Championships on March 31, along with her teammates and 65 other Level 9 competitors from Massachusetts. The event, hosted by the Northeast Gymnastics Center, was held at Wilmington High School.

All Level 9 gymnasts needed a 34.00 AA to advance to the Regional Competition, which will be held this month at UMass Lowell.

Kelly Duncan of Andover will appear in the 89th annual Skating Club of Boston's Ice Chips Show of Champions 2001: The World on Ice.

The show will be presented April 6, 7, and 8, at Northeastern University's Matthews Arena in Boston.

Duncan, 14, is a freshman at Andover High School. She will perform in the Beatles and the Bostonians numbers in the show and will be her fifth appearance in Ice Chips.

Several Olympian skaters along with skaters from around the world will also be skating, including Alexei Yagudin, the three-time and World Champion and two-time European Champion and Caryn Kadavy,



Kelly Duncan

a World Bronze Medalist and U.S. National Silver and Bronze Medalist.

Organizers say the international theme of this show reflects the breadth of world-class star skaters, many of whom are preparing to compete in the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

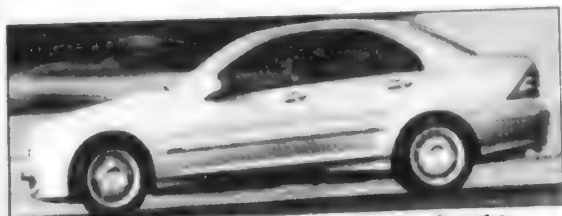
Proceeds from the show will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Boston.

Performances will be held on Friday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 7, at 1 p.m.; and Sunday, April 8, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and group discounts are available.

To purchase tickets, call The Skating Club of Boston box office, (617)-782-5900, Ext. 15.

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BUSINESS PROFILES



From left: Ron Savage, Greg Sirois, Mark Horne, Alan Freeman, Bruce Lacreta
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SPORTSTALK

By Rick Harrison

This column, compiled from information supplied by the colleges or by friends and relatives of the student-athletes, youth standouts and coaches involved, is published periodically in the Townsman. Information may be mailed to the office at 33 Chestnut St., Andover, 01810; or faxed to 978-470-2819.

Former Andover High diving champion **Caroline Crocker** dominated off the

one- and three-meter boards at the first New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Championship Meet held over three days at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn.

Williams College standout Crocker placed first in the one-meter diving with 364 points, and the following day came back to complete her sweep with a first place in the three-meter diving with 430 points.

Her dominating perfor-

mance earned Crocker the Diver of the Meet Award, as Williams won the team title with plenty to spare over runner-up Middlebury and third place Amherst College.

Although this was the first-ever NESCAC Meet, the Williams women have now won the New England Division 3 title 13 straight years.

Crocker was also selected to the NESCAC 2000-2001 winter season All-Academic Team.

The team consists of five

women and five men from each school in the conference.

Each student honored is a starter or key reserve on an official varsity team, and must carry a grade point average of 3.35 or higher.

The Williams women recently wrapped up the swim & dive season at the NCAA Division 3 Championship Meet in Buffalo, N.Y.

Steve Vickers of Andover is once again expected to be

among the top players for the Bentley College baseball team this spring.

The former Andover High and Andover Post 8 American Legion standout, who will alternate between first base and the outfield for the Falcons, hit .325 last year with seven home runs.

Hard-hitting lefty swinger Vickers also owns a solid .322 career batting average.

In the recent season opener, a 13-4 romp over Babson College, Vickers smacked two hits.

Bentley, a member of the expanded Northeast-10 Conference, finished last spring with a 19-24 overall record that included impressive late-season victories over nationally-ranked NCAA Tournament regional qualifiers Florida Southern and UMass Lowell.

Shaun Rodriguez of Andover, a men's soccer player at the University of Maine in Orono, was one of 129 at the school to receive a Scholar/Athlete Recognition Award.

Rodriguez received a silver medallion which symbolizes his second time qualifying for this honor, which goes to those who earn a 3.0 or better grade-point average for the previous spring and fall semesters and/or have maintained a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

Rodriguez is majoring in Food Science & Nutrition.

Jennifer Boyce of Andover, a three-year captain of the Austin Prep coed swim and dive team, became the first female athlete in school history to earn seven swim-team varsity letters.

She earned three as a junior high student-athlete on the high school team, and added four more her freshman through senior years.

Jennifer will move on to compete at Keene, N.H. State College next year.

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From left: Vice President Carol Keefe, President Tom Keefe, and Susan Pokress

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Addison Travel is committed to excellent customer service. Tom and

his staff of travel consultants continually educate themselves through seminars, workshops, and travel. Tom serves as President of the New England Chapter of the American Society of Travel Agents, a further testimony to his expertise. In addition, Addison Travel belongs to the Action 6 buying consortium, which allows them to offer good value on many travel opportunities to their clients. Visit the Addison Travel Website for some great travel ideas: TravelBargainBoard.com.

Tom says that this will be another big year for travel in Europe. Closer to home, the choices are almost endless. Disney is still a top favorite of children. Disneyland and Universal Studios can be just the

beginning of a memorable family trip to California. Las Vegas is a great adult get away and if you have flexibility in your schedule, May is a wonderful time to travel.

Addison Travel is located in downtown Andover at 24 Chestnut St., and is a proud member of the Andover Center Association. In addition to Tom and Carol Keefe, their travel consultants include their son Andrew Keefe, Susan Pokress, Mary Mason, Sandra Lanouette, and Joan E. Lewis. Hours are Mon.- Fri. 9a.m.- 5p.m., Thurs. evenings by appointment, and Sat. 9:30a.m.- 12:30p.m. Telephone 978-475-7872. E-mail: addison tvl@earthlink.net.

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BUSINESS PROFILES



From left: Flor Salazar, Cynthia Starr, Melanie Glick, and Peter St. Gelais
Walls 'N All Paint and Decorating Center

Walls 'N All Paint and Decorating Center has a very charming way of taking the uncertainty out of home decorating and improvement. Its knowledgeable staff, including two interior designers, provide expert and professional assistance to customers, enabling them to take full advantage of the incomparable selection of high quality products for home decorating, including paint and painting supplies, wood finishing products, wallpaper, blinds, fabrics for window treatments and upholstery, and much more. The original store, in its location at the junction of Rtes. 114 and 125 for 24 years, also carries hardwood and laminate flooring. A new 6,000-sq. ft. store in Newburyport includes a Flooring Boutique with a wide selection of flooring materials, including carpet, tile, hardwood, laminate, and Oriental rugs.

Walls 'N All has two interior designers on staff to assist you. They are available to visit your home and help you

plan a coordinated look for one room or the whole house. Designer Melanie Glick completed her studies in interior design at the University of California at Los Angeles. During her fifteen year career she has acquired a distinguished reputation for her professional abilities and customer satisfaction. Designer Cynthia Starr has a BA from Harvard, where she studied art history, architecture, and classicism. She has previously worked independently designing and constructing window treatments, refinishing furniture, and decorating consulting. Melanie and Cynthia, along with Peter St. Gelais and Flor Salazar, will help you through the entire decorating process, including providing you with referrals for painting contractors and wallpaper hangers.

The paint department carries Martin Senour, Pratt and Lambert, Waverly, and Fine Paints of Europe. Their computerized color matching system will duplicate any

paint or fabric color. Walls 'N All carries all the latest products for creating special effects, including glazes, crackle finishes, metallic looks, rag rolling, etc. They have a huge selection of faux finishing products and offer seminars in the techniques throughout the year. They will special order any product not in stock.

The wallpaper department has over 1,200 books from the best designers, as well as 12,000 rolls of wallpaper and borders in stock. The Waverly boutique allows you to easily put together a coordinated look with wallpaper, borders, window treatments, bedding, and accessories.

Visit Walls 'N All at 419 Andover St. in No. Andover. Hours are Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sat. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Telephone (978) 685-2444. Fax 683-4699. Visit the Newburyport store at 253 Low St. Telephone (978) 462-3503.

Joan Browne 4/5/01

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Fighting Gravity

(Continued from page 21)

Because of the understanding they had as writers, says Rambach, when she eventually told Dubus she was writing the book, and told him it was in the form of a novel, "he wasn't threatened, because he knew it was fiction."

Nonetheless, the wild and unorthodox spirit of Babineau is reflected in the acts of Dubus himself. Take, for instance, the scene in chapter 23, where Babineau shoots a cat out of a tree on the campus of the college where he teaches, getting himself evicted from campus housing. In real life, says Rambach, that was Bradford College, and a cat was indeed stuck in a tree for several days in 1984, until its owner, an idiosyncratic professor from a farming background, did in fact appeal to Dubus to dispatch the creature, which he did with one of his many guns.

"Word got around," says Rambach, and the school's administration asked Dubus and Rambach to

leave their college-owned apartment at the corner of South Park and Highland streets. Dubus then decided to retire.

Rambach met Dubus during her sophomore year at Tufts University while on an internship at David R. Godine, Dubus's publisher. She was 19 and he, a professor at Bradford and twice divorced, was 41. They married in 1979.

After finishing a degree in English at Tufts, Rambach went on to get a master's in creative writing at the University of New Hampshire and a master's in fine arts at Vermont College. Then, she began teaching, first at Bradford for three years, then at other schools, including eight years at Emerson College in Boston. Her relationship with Dubus deteriorated, and it ultimately did not survive the aftermath of his accident.

With a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, Rambach has done work on the Elder Initiative Project and then the Learning in Retirement Association. Most recently, she has been teaching writing in grades 5 through 8 at Hampstead Academy

in New Hampshire. She has lived on Arundel Street in Andover for the past eight years with her teenage daughters, Cadence and Madeleine Dubus.

"I'd always liked this town," says Rambach of Andover. She cites the Andover Bookstore and the Addison Gallery at Phillips Academy as attractions for her. "What I also found appealing was all the reservations. I go running there. I need to be near nature."

Rambach says Dubus never read her manuscript, and she has not read a great deal of his later work, even when friends would tell her they saw her in some of his characters. She says she is not overly concerned about reactions from people who were close to Dubus about her book's very personal explorations. "In my heart I know where the book came from," she says, "and it didn't come from anything base or vengeful. It came from love and the need to understand."

Rambach will be reading from *Fighting Gravity* tomorrow, Friday, April 6, at the Andover Bookstore at 7 p.m.

EVENTS CALENDAR LISTINGS

(Continued from page 25)

ings, through April 20; containing period rooms from 1820s to 1840s, with 19th-century farm and wood-working tools; library and office hours 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays, Mondays by appointment; \$4 adults, \$2 children, members free; Andover Historical Society, 97 Main St.; 978-475-2236.

North Andover Historical Society, 153 Academy Road, North Andover, maintains two sites that feature museum galleries: 1789 Johnson Cottage, an artisan's home and workshop, and 1715 Parson Barnard House, depicting life from 1715-1830, 179 Osgood St. changing exhibits highlight local life from the 17th to the 20th century, library and archive, \$3 adults, \$1 children, \$2 seniors, Johnson Cottage, tours Tuesday-Friday 10

a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m., \$5 adults for a combined tour of both properties; 978-686-4035.

American Textile History Museum, ongoing *Textiles in America* exhibition, special exhibitions and events, function rooms, catering, museum store and Seasoned Chef Gazebo Cafe; hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday, and most holidays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; admission \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, students and groups, free for members and children under 6, parking is free, and the building is wheelchair accessible, 491 Dutton St., Lowell; 978-441-0400 or <www.athm.org>.

Museum of Printing, 800 Massachusetts Ave., North Andover, featuring antique printing equipment, \$5 admission, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, 1-8 p.m., Saturday, 10

a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; 978-686-0450 or <www.museumofprinting.org>.

New England Quilt Museum, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 18 Shattuck St., Lowell; 978-452-4207.

Boott Cotton Mills Museum, free, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 400 Foot of John, Lowell.

Castle Hill, 290 Argilla Road, Ipswich; 978-356-4351.

Lawrence Heritage State Park, open daily, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 1 Jackson St., Lawrence; 978-794-1655.

Custom House Maritime Museum, *Seeking Justice: 300 Years of People on the Newburyport Waterfront, Along the Shore, The Urban Seaport in the Age of Sail, A Gallery of Ships, and Coping with Crisis*, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m., 25 Water St., Newburyport; 978-462-8681.



"Early Spring," A View of Stevens-Coolidge Estate, by local artist Tamara Krendel, is on display at the Whistler House Museum of Art through April 14. Part of "A Woman's Point of View," an exhibit by six women artists, this exhibit is in honor of Women's History Month, and features diverse work in a wide range of styles and mediums. From intimate whimsical tapestries to large, lush, expressionistic oil portraits of cows, to colorful poetic still-lives of eggplants, gourds, and glowing fishbowls, this show has something for everyone. Call 978-452-7641.

Wenham Museum, *Cows in the Parlor: New England Dairy Farmers and their Land*, May 19-Sept. 9, \$5 adults, \$3 children ages 2 and up, 132 Main St., Wenham; 978-468-2377.

Peabody Essex Museum, *Painted with Thread: The Art of American Embroidery*, April 13-29; *New and Noteworthy: Recent Additions to the Collections*, through May 20; *Kalighat*, through July 1; *A Folk Art Sampler*, ongoing; *Ebony and Ivory: Furniture from British India and Ceylon*, through April 29, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., closed Christmas, New Year's, \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, free, children under 17, East India Square, Salem, Mass., 800-745-4054, <www.pem.org>.

Art Exhibitions

Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy campus, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; 978-749-4015.

Essex Art Center, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 56 Island St., Lawrence; 685-2343.

Merrimack College's McQuade Library Art Gallery, *Resolution*

of Reality, A Colorful Look at the Past, featuring 20 paintings inspired by old family photographs from the 1920s-'50s by Jan Searle of Newbury, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday, 7:30-6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

Merrimack College Rogers Center for the Arts McCoy Gallery, *Landscape 2001*, works by six artists, through April 25, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; 978-837-5189.

Brush Art Gallery, *HOME? Cross-currents in Contemporary South Asian/American Art*, through April 5, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 256 Market St., Lowell; 978-459-7819.

J. David Broudo Gallery of Art, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Endicott College, 376 Hale St. (Route 127) Beverly; 978-232-2250.

Arthur Griffin Center for Photographic Art, *Art Wolfe: Tribes and the Living Wild*, through May 6; Tuesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m., wheelchair accessible, \$5, 67 Shore Road, Winchester; 781-729-1158.

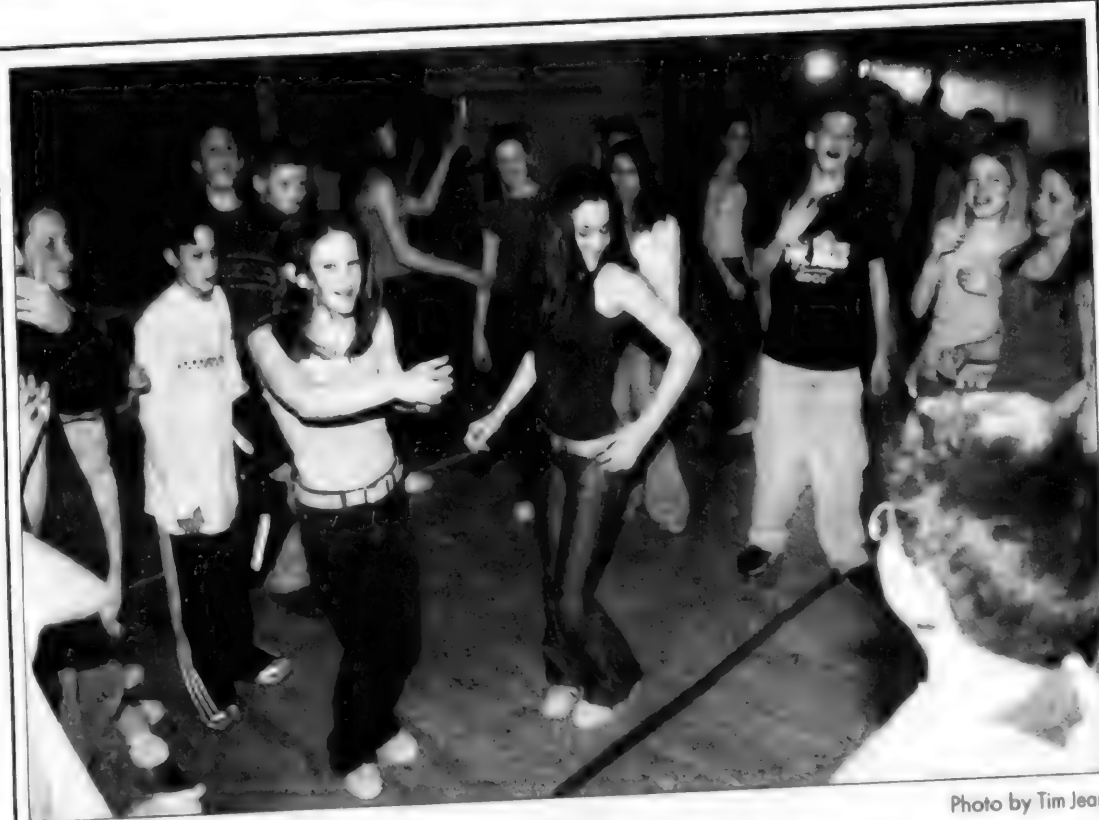


Photo by Tim Jean

Caitlin Milley and Stacia Scott dance the night away at the Andona Society's Spring Fling program last Saturday, March 31 at the Andover/North Andover YMCA. The event, for all Andover 6th-, 7th-, and 8th-grade students, included a bungee run (photo, page 1), a DJ and dancing, hip hop with Dance Infusion, swimming, and sports games.

Required rabies shots for pets this Saturday

A rabies clinic for dogs and cats is set for Saturday, April 7 at West Middle School on Shawshen Road from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Andover Animal Hospital personnel will provide the vaccinations for \$10. Animals should be leashed or restrained.

Rabies vaccinations are good for three years if there is proof (a current rabies certificate) that your pet has been immunized within the past year. Otherwise, the vaccination will be good for only a year. State law requires all dogs and cats to be vaccinated against rabies by six months of age. They must be three months old to get the rabies vaccine.

All dogs must be licensed annually, in accordance with state and local statutes. If residents have not yet licensed their dog, they should call the town clerk's office at 978-623-8257.

Septic info

Those wishing to obtain updated information about building and development in unsewered (septic) areas can attend a meeting on Thursday, April 26 at West Middle School auditorium.

This program will be run by Dan Tremblay, a Massachusetts-licensed health agent. Inspection procedures, costs, tax credits, and how to obtain a "certificate of compliance" will be covered. Also, a film about new soil evaluation and testing requirements that are required before septic systems can be approved will be shown.

Preregistration is necessary by calling 978-777-2711.

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS PROBATE COURT ESSEX, SS.

Docket No. 99P 2173-G11

To all persons interested in the estate of YVONNE ELLIS of Andover, in said County, mentally ill person

A petition has been presented to said Court for license to sell at private sale certain real estate of said Yvonne Ellis for investment and to the DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Salem before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the twenty-third day of April, 2001 the return day of this citation.

Witness, John C. Stevens, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-seventh day of March, 2001

Pamela Casey O'Brien Register

April 5, 2001

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING



TOWN OF ANDOVER BOARD OF HEALTH

A public hearing will be held by the Andover Board of Health in the First Floor Conference Room, Town Offices, 36 Bartlet Street, on April 9, 2001 at 7:30 P.M. in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 81U, Subdivision Control Law, for the purpose of reviewing the proposed subdivision Definitive Plan entitled: "NEWPORT CIRCLE" revision date 3/13/01, located off Brown Street, Andover, MA, as filed on March 15, 2001 by Stilianos & Maria Katsikis, 8 Gavin Circle, Andover, MA 01810.

BY: Dr. Douglas Dunbar, Chairman
Andover Board of Health
April 5, 2001

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Mary P. Martin individually and as Trustee of the Marikapa Family Trust to Commonwealth Mortgage Company, Inc. dated June 16, 1989 and registered with the Essex County (Northern District) Registry District of the Land Court as Document No. 47164 as noted on Certificate of Title No. U-214, of which mortgage Federal National Mortgage Association is the present holder by assignment, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 p.m. on April 27, 2001, on the mortgaged premises located at 12 Longwood Drive, Unit 8, Andover Gardens Condominium, Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, TO WIT:

Unit No. 8 at 12 Longwood Drive (the "Unit"), a unit in the condominium at 6 through 12 Crescent Drive, inclusive, 9 through 12 Longwood Drive, inclusive, and 14 Longwood Drive, Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, known as Andover Gardens Condominium, created pursuant to and subject to the provisions of Chapter 183A of the General Laws of Massachusetts, by Master Deed dated May 14, 1980, and filed with Essex North Registry District of the Land Court on May 15, 1980 as Document No. 30023 (hereinafter referred to as "Master Deed").

The post office address of the Unit is:

12 Longwood Drive
Andover, Massachusetts 01810

Said Unit is conveyed together with:

1. An undivided .75419% interest appertaining to said Unit in the common areas and facilities of said Condominium;
2. The exclusive right and easement to use parking space no. 12L8, as shown on the plan entitled "Site Plan Andover Gardens Condominium Andover, Massachusetts" by Bradford Saivetz & Associates, Inc., dated March 26, 1980 and filed with the Master Deed (hereinafter referred to as "Site Plan").
3. The exclusive right and easement to use storage bin no. 12L8 on the ground floor of the building known as and numbered 12 Crescent Drive, as shown on Sheet 7 of the plans entitled "Andover Gardens Condominium Andover, Massachusetts" by Bradford Saivetz & Associates, Inc. dated March 26, 1980 consisting of twelve (12) sheets (hereinafter referred to as the "Plans").

For mortgagor's title see deed registered with Essex County (Northern District) Registry District of the Land

Court as Document No. 38953, as noted on Certificate of Title No. U-214.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION
Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
Allison West, Esquire
150 California Street
Newton, MA 02458
(617) 558-0500

April 5, 12 & 19, 2001

Mortgagee's Sale Of Real Estate Premises: A2 Colonial Drive, Unit A2-7, Andover's Colonial Drive Condominium Andover, MA

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Janine A. Mulligan to First Franklin Financial Corporation, dated May 4, 1999, recorded at Essex County (North District) Registry of Deeds in Book 5420, Page 304, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage contained and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on May 2, 2001 at 12:00 P.M. (Noon) upon the mortgaged premises at A2 Colonial Drive, Unit A2-7, Andover's Colonial Drive Condominium, Andover, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

"The following described premises in the Andover's Colonial Drive Condominium created by Master Deed dated June 16, 1987 and recorded on June 17, 1987 with the Essex North Registry of Deeds at Book 2522, Page 105, as amended of record, being Unit Number A2-7, together with an undivided percentage interest appertaining to said Unit in the common areas and facilities of said Condominium, and subject to and with the benefit of the provisions of said Master Deed hereinabove referred to, as amended, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 183A, and managed and regulated by the Trustee's of Andover's Colonial Drive Condominium Trust under Declaration of Trust dated as of June 16, 1987 and recorded with said Deeds at Book 2522, Page 137. The Post Office address of the property is Unit A2-7, Andover's Colonial Drive Condominium, A2 Colonial Drive, Andover, MA 01810.

Said Unit contains 830 square feet as shown on floor plans recorded simultaneously with the Master Deed and also on the copy of the portion of said plans attached to the original Unit Deed, to which is affixed the verified statement of a registered architect in the form required by Section 9 of said Chapter 183A.

The Unit is conveyed together with the benefit of easements and rights as described in the original Unit Deed and in the Master Deed.

The Unit is subject to easements, restriction and rights as set forth and described in the original Unit Deed and the Master Deed.

Being the same premises conveyed to me by deed of Susan Klein, Trustee of JEDS Realty Trust, recorded herewith."

In the event of any typographical errors in the publication of this notice, the description in the mortgage shall control.

Terms of Sale: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described. Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser, and

the balance of the purchase price shall be paid by, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale and shall be deposited with J. Patrick Kinhan, Esq., of Topsfield, Massachusetts.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

CREDIT-BASED ASSET SERVICING
and Securitization, LLC
Present Holder of said Mortgage
By Assignment of Mortgage
By its Attorney-In-Fact:
J. PATRICK KINHAN, ESQ.
15 Main Street
Topsfield, MA 01983
(978)887-4055
Dated March 23, 2001
March 29, April 5 & 12, 2001

NOTICE OF SALE

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by William P. Hannigan to Peoples Mortgage Corporation dated May 21, 1999, and recorded with the Essex North District Registry of Deeds in Book 5443, Page 21, which mortgage was assigned to the Boston Federal Savings Bank by Assignment dated May 20, 1999, and recorded with the Essex North District Registry of Deeds in Book 5443, Page 30 and by Confirmatory Assignment of Mortgage dated May 21, 1999, and recorded with the Essex North District Registry of Deeds in Book 5981, Page 9, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the 27th day of April, 2001, upon the mortgaged premises, which premises are commonly known as and numbered 5 Oak Street, Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage as follows:

The land with the buildings thereon situated on the northerly side of Oak Street in Andover (Ballardvale), Essex County, Massachusetts and shown as Lot 2 on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Andover, Mass. As Subdivided by James F. Cleary pursuant to Decision #1945, dated August 7, 1987 by Town of Andover Board of Appeals, Scale: 1" = 40' - August 17, 1987" and prepared by Robert G. Goodwin, Registered Land Surveyor and recorded with the Essex North District Registry of Deeds as Plan Number 10860, and reference may be had to said plan for a more particular description.

Lot 2 contains 37,980 square feet, more or less according to said plan.

See Deed at Book 5054, Page 211.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date

Said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all restrictions, easements, improvements, outstanding tax titles, mortgages, liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, unpaid taxes, municipal liens and other public taxes, assessments or liens, having priority over the mortgage described herein, if any.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with the Mortgagee's attorney, Tarlow, Breed, Hart, Murphy & Rodgers, P.C., the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within thirty (30) days of said written notice.

TERMS OF SALE: Ten Thousand and 00/100 (\$10,000.00) Dollars will be required to be paid in cash or by certified check at the time and place of sale as earnest money, and shall be deposited in escrow with the firm of Tarlow, Breed, Hart, Murphy & Rodgers, P.C., 21 Custom House Street, Boston, MA 02110. The balance is to be paid by certified check or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale.

Other terms will be announced at the sale.

Boston Federal Savings Bank
present holder of said Mortgage
By its Attorneys,
Tarlow, Breed, Hart, Murphy & Rodgers, P.C.

by: Robert Orsi, Esquire
21 Custom House Street
Boston, MA 02110
(617)261-7600

April 5, 12 & 19, 2001

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE
AND FAMILY COURT
DEPARTMENT
ESSEX DIVISION
Docket No. 01P0601-EP1
NOTICE
In the ESTATE OF ANNE
F. BAIN**

To all persons interested in the estate of ANNE F. BAIN late of the County of Essex Date of Death, October 21, 2000

A petition has been presented in the above captioned matter praying that a certain instrument be probated purporting to be the last will of said deceased by CAROLE A. MacDONALD of Iversness in the State of Florida, praying that she be appointed executrix thereof, without giving sureties on her bond.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT Salem, 36 Federal St., Salem, MA 01970 BEFORE 10:00 O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON (10:00 A.M.) ON April 17, 2001

Wills only: In addition you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating the specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within thirty (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

Witness, John C. Stevens, III, Esquire, First Justice of said Court. Date March 14, 2001

Pamela Casey O'Brien
Register of Probate Court
April 5, 2001

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EXPERIENCED Personal Lines CSR with integrity who will share our commitment of service to our clients. 3+ years of experience a must, computer experience is necessary. Position will entail servicing clients in all aspects of personal insurance. We are an established Agency needing to expand our staff to service our growth. Please forward your resume to: Personal Lines CSR, c/o Doherty Insurance, Box 1985, Andover, MA 01810 or e-mail info@DohertyInsurance.com.

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We will look forward to speaking with you!

Doherty Insurance Agency, INC.
21 Elm Street, Andover, MA 01810

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ANDOVER-BALMORAL. 1-bedroom, top floor, heated, parking. Available 6/1/01. \$1075.00/month. Call 617-846-4505 after 6pm.

ANDOVER-MODERN 3 bedroom deck, parking, cathedral ceiling, eat-in-kitchen. No pets, \$1350 plus. Available 4/01/01. 978-474-1886.

Houses for Rent

ANDOVER 3-4 BEDROOM house, 2 bathrooms, large kitchen, large living-room, dining-room. \$2700 per month. References required. 978-664-1688.

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ANDOVER EXCEPTIONAL TWO BEDROOM intown, parking, wall to wall. New kitchen, and bath. \$1625/month call 978-474-9192.

ANDOVER, N.MAIN ST. 6-room Rowhouse. Hardwood floors, basement, attic, freshly painted, parking. \$975, no utilities. 978-475-2539.

ANDOVER, THE FLATLEY COMPANIES Royal Crest Estates has openings for immediate availability. this beautiful property also offers a fitness center, clubhouse, and is gated community. Spacious 2 bedroom apartments with all the comforts of home. Rents starting at \$1773. The Flatley Co. 978-682-7200.

ANDOVER- LARGE 3- bedroom, 2-bath apartment downtown, 2nd floor, parking, gas heat, \$1,600.00 per/month plus utilities. Available April 15th for occupancy. 978-618-1933.

ANDOVER- Stylish 1 & 2 bedroom apartments, attractively situated on Merrimack River. Close to 93/495. Clubhouse, fitness center, outdoor pool, and tennis courts. A great place to call home! No pets. Open Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm, RIVERVIEW COMMONS, 978-685-0552. Corcoran Management Co. 650 Bulfinch Drive.

N. ANDOVER- 1 BEDROOM cottage. Large lot, remodeled on busy road. \$1100 plus security. 978-688-0724.

NORTH ANDOVER, NEWLY renovated, 1-bedroom in downtown area. Off-street parking, laundry in building, no pets, non-smoking. Security, available 4/15, \$825 includes utilities. 978-258-5257.

SPACIOUS 1 BEDROOM parquet floors, Washington Park, pool, tennis, \$975/month includes heat! Won't last! 978-475-7396.

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NORTH ANDOVER. PROFESSIONAL ROOMMATE to share 3 bedroom apartment. Off street parking, non-smoking, \$495 Utilities included. 978-688-4258.

Rooms for Rent

ANDOVER- DOWNTOWN AREA, in nice home. Parking space, storage, short-term, OK. Non-smoking. 978-749-0210.

FURNISHED ROOM for gentleman, 35 years or older. No smoking in house. Location is Wilmington/Andover line. Call 978-658-4793.

Wanted to Rent

SUMMER HOUSING NEEDED- responsible female-professional (and well-behaved cat) seek apartment rental or house-sitting situation, June 8-August 30th. Quiet-street & access to yard would be nice! Please call 978-474-9940.

Storage Space

ANDOVER SELF STORAGE heated storage units, 25 sq.ft. and up. High security with low monthly rates. Call 978-975-3933.

STORAGE SPACE- 200-1500 sq. feet. North Andover. Call 978-685-5566.

Resort Places for Rent

MARTHA'S VINEYARD HOME for rent- 3 bedrooms, back door path to hiking trails and water. 1.8 miles from town center of Vineyard Haven. Absolutely no pets or smokers. Weekly rentals April thru June and September thru October. 978-470-1545.

Land for Sale

FOR-SALE-BY-OWNER. Beautiful, private 1-acre lot. All utilities, new septic for 4-bedroom home. Separate new garage, walking distance to South Elementary School. Call for details. 978-470-0747.

Office Space for Rent

ANDOVER CENTER. 1000 sq. feet. Excellent location. Professional office space, lease required. 978-475-9796.

ANDOVER CENTER OFFICE AND RETAIL LOCATIONS. Singles and suites, sizes from 150 sq. ft. to 5,000 sq. ft. subdividable. Call 978-475-8732.

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OFFICE SPACE- ANDOVER Town center, CVS building. Two offices, approximately 600 sq.ft. Off-street parking. Call 978-475-4474.

OFFICE SPACE- North Andover, professional therapy office within suite available for sublet. Day and evening times available. 978-682-1996.

OFFICE-RETAIL. 1500-3500 sq. feet. Main Street, North Andover. Call 978-685-5566.

Campers & Trailers

1992 COLEMAN CAMPING trailer "destiny model", sleeps five, excellent condition. Used less than 20 times. \$3000. Call 978-474-9195.

Automobiles for Sale

1954 CHEVY BLAIR- V6, auto, 2-doors, hot red & white, new interior, many new parts, original mileage, 87,500, VERY CLEAN SHOW CONDITION. \$14,300. Cell# 978-265-3111. 6-10pm 978-557-0207.

1963 PONTIAC CATALINA- 4 door, 68k original miles, like new, must sell, second owner \$4400 or best offer. 978-851-7807.

1985 VW CABRIOLET- 120k miles, no rust, good condition, 1 owner, \$1750. 978-475-6159.

1985.5 PORSCHE 944. 151,000 miles, charcoal gray. Engine in excellent condition. Meticulously maintained, needs new paint. Asking \$5000, firm. 978-659-2567.

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Lynnfield- Great multi-level in great area offers loads of space and private lot. \$489,000.



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North Reading- "The Greens", spacious mid unit, private setting with southern views, an unparalleled lifestyle. \$359,900.



North Reading- Great Location, near town center. Sparkling 4 bedroom home in immaculate condition. Offers C/A, C/W security and heated in-ground pool. \$679,000.

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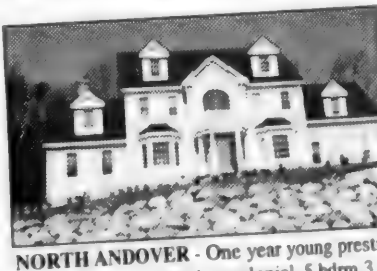
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1986 VOLVO 240 sedan-5 speed, high mileage, \$975. **978-474-9283.**

1987 FORD F250 XLT, 4x4, ext. cab. All power options- auto, 6.9 diesel, 138k replaced in past 15k. Dark red metallic paint, transmission, injectors, pump, fuel tanks, radiator, tires, brakes, exhaust, ball-joints, alternator, batteries and cables. **RUNS EXCELLENT, MUST SEE!** \$8,000. Call Shawn **978-373-2092.**

1987 VOLVO 240 SEDAN 5-speed, looks good, runs well, high mileage, \$1,200. **978-470-2161.**

1988 HONDA CIVIC Hatchback DX. 5 speed, 77,000 miles, new clutch, \$2,500. Call **978-664-4184.**

1988 TOYOTA 4 RUNNER- great mechanical condition, second engine, well maintained, some rust, perfect for student. Very dependable, \$3800. Call **978-475-3815.**

1989 MERCEDES 560 SEL- Pearl black with black leather interior. Loaded, sunroof, excellent condition. 145,000 miles. \$12,000, must see! **978-685-2873.**

1991 EAGLE TALON, turbo. AWD-loaded! Well maintained, 110k miles. \$4500 or best offer. **978-470-0109.**

1989 SAAB 900S- 2-door hatchback, red, 5-speed manual, 168,000 miles, clarion pop-out stereo, sunroof, work-records available. Asking price \$2500. **978-474-1799.**

1992 LEXUS ES 300- 145k miles, good condition. Very reliable, book \$9,500. Must sell, \$6,900/best offer. **978-794-3553.**

1992 LINCOLN TOWN CAR, signature series. 72k, fully loaded with moonroof. Perfect condition in and out, \$7950. **978-694-9490 or 978-375-1515.**

1992 MERCURY MARQUIS LS- 80,000 miles, silver with black canvas top, loaded! Excellent condition, runs perfect, \$4900. **978-694-9490 or 978-375-1515.**

1992 PLYMOUTH COLT Vista mini van. AC, cruise, 2.4 L, 5 speed, am/fm cassette, p/m, more. Folding removable seat. Good condition. \$2400. **978-474-1715.**

1992 TOYOTA CAMRY, V4, auto sedan, 4-doors, metallic dark green, leather interior, power doors/windows, cd player, fog lights, 110,500 miles, good condition. \$6,900. Cell#- **978-265-3111** 6-10pm- **978-557-0207.**

1992 NISSAN SENTRA SE- gray, automatic, ac, power mirrors, cruise, spoiler, 113K miles, excellent condition, new battery, alt. \$3,000. **978-657-0897.**

1993 ACURA VIGOR. 1 owner, loaded- includes sunroof. White with black leather, 70,000 miles, mint condition in and out, \$9,500. **978-694-9490 or 978-375-1515.**

1993 HONDA ACCORD LX- 71K, 1-owner, always garaged. Loaded, new tires, excellent condition in and out, \$7900. **978-694-9490 or 978-375-1515.**

1993 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS. 4 door, leather, fully loaded. High highway miles, excellent condition, runs great. \$4600. **978-664-0443.**

1994 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY - leather interior, new brakes, transmission, and radiator. Good condition. 140K, original owner. \$5400. **978-794-1162.**

1994 FULL SIZE Bronco 4x4 Eddie Bauer. Tucson bronze/desert copper, 87k miles, pw/pd/pm mirrors, auto, 5.8L (Windsor), V8 EFI, 3.55 LTD slip-diff, aluminum wheels, alarm/keyless entry, engine block heater, cd stereo, leather, 13/17 mpg, moving, must sell! \$11000 bo. Ryan **978-590-3029.** coozee@hotmail.com.

1994 DODGE CARAVAN- V6, one owner, 7-passenger, auto, a/c, am/fm stereo, power doors, desert silver, 86k miles, excellent condition. \$4,800. Cell#- **978-265-3111.** 6-10pm- **978-557-0207.**

1994 LEXUS ES300- loaded, includes sunroof, custom 5-star wheels with 17" tires. Mint condition in and out, \$13,900. **978-694-9490 or 978-375-1515.**

1995 FORD WINDSTAR GL, 6 cylinder, champagne, automatic, am/fm stereo cassette with rear controls. Rear heat -AC controls, roof-rack, 84,500 miles, one owner. \$5,700. **978-683-7933.**

1995 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE GSX, white, all wheel drive, 5 speed, all possible features/loaded! 45k miles, \$9900. **978-470-3824** after 6pm.

1996 CROWN VICTORIA LX- 4-door, 6-passenger. (4.6i OHC SEFI V8 engine). Leather seats, power doorlocks & power front seats. Only 37k miles. Excellent mechanical condition & good body condition. Asking 11K. Call **978-686-3741.**

1997 COUGAR, MINT condition, 50k miles, fm, cd, security system, a/c, phone, pd/pw, \$10,400. **978-681-9924.**

1997 FORD EXPLORER- 48,000 miles, power everything, a/c, cruise, tilt wheel, keyless entry, luggage rack, fog lights. Excellent condition, \$17,900. **978-409-6100.**

1997 JEEP WRANGLER Sport- dark blue, V6, a/c, cd player, Lojack alarm, hard and soft top, winter and summer doors, 33k miles, \$15,300. **781-246-0742.**

1997 TOYOTA RAV4- 48K miles, 5 speed, loaded, excellent condition, \$14,750 or bo. **978-623-5997.**

1998 MERCEDES BENZ SLK- metallic blue with black. Heated seats, CD, 16,000 miles, warranty, \$32,500. (eves.) **978-474-1703.** (days) **978-284-5222.**

1999 BLUE DODGE Grand Caravan SE, front wheel drive, fully loaded. Power windows, power locks, two built-in child seats, roof rack, rear a/c control, alloy wheels, radio, tape and cd player. Seven year/100,000 mile warranty, nationwide roadside assistance. Asking \$20,000. Call **978-470-3788.**

1999 BMW 528iA -sport and premium package. Green with tan leather. LOADED! 17-inch alloys, new tires. 32k miles, warranty, MINT! \$36,500. **978-975-0049.**

1998 NISSAN ALTIMA GXE- like new, auto, 4-door, PW, PD, AC, CD, 67 K. \$11,200. **978-692-4436.** pbarry@yahoo.com.

1999 SAAB 93 convertible. Loaded with every option. 24k miles. \$24,500. Call **617-513-5761.**

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2000 AUDI A6 4.2 Quattro- racing green/melange, 17" alloy, xenon, heated seats, rear side airbags. 13,200 miles, immaculate! \$43,250. **978-621-2320.**

2000 HONDA CIVIC LX sedan. Very low mileage, rear-wing spoiler, super condition, must see-great price! **978-475-5797.**

2000 LEXUS RX300 13,900 miles, LOADED! Excellent condition, \$37,000. Call **978-685-4909.**

2001 GMC YUKON XL 4wd, slt decor, leather, heated seats, sunroof, cd, second row bucket seats, running boards. White with light tan interior. 4,500 miles. \$39,900 firm. **978-470-0163.**

93 NISSAN SENTRA, MAROON 4-door, automatic, a/c, power mirrors, cruise control, tilt steering 4 snow tires, 97k miles. Excellent condition, new exhaust, battery brakes. \$4000. **978-470-8966.**

95' DODGE DAKOTA SLT, extended cab, loaded! 65k miles, sunroof and bed liner. Must see! \$8,500. **978-683-7798.**

BMW 95' 325i, black/black leather, sport package, heated seats, track control, excellent condition. 78k miles, \$17,000/best offer. Call **978-921-6231.**

BMW, 740i, 1995 white with tan leather, traction, heater seats. CD/prem. sound. Excellent condition. Original owner. \$24,900. **978-470-2295.**

VOLVO 2000-V70 cross country AWD wagon. Automatic, all power, moon dust metallic, ivory leather. 33,000 miles, sunroof, factory warranty, roof-rack, new-tires. \$28,700. **978-475-2648.**



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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4!



NORTH ANDOVER - 59 Concord St. Charming & fresh, newly built 3 bedroom Townhouse. Many upgrades include gas fireplace, hardwood in kitchen, skylights, sliders to sun deck. Great near town location!
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$209,000

OPEN SUNDAY 12-2!



NORTH ANDOVER - 34 Millpond. Light & bright 2-3 bedroom unit with beautiful decor! Gourmet kitchen, dining area has wall of glass overlooking private brick courtyard. Cathedral ceiling master bedroom. Fireplace living room.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$274,900

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



NORTH ANDOVER - 129 Moody St. Light & bright Ranch featuring cathedral ceiling fireplaced living room, formal dining room, 3 season room, completely finished lower level with 4th bedroom and full bath - ideal for teenager or in-law.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$304,900*

OPEN SUNDAY 12-2!



ANDOVER - 3 Miles Cir. Four bedroom Contemporary Split Entry with lots of hardwood, newer white kitchen, fireplaced family room, 2.5 baths. Central a/c. Near town and schools, and located in a lovely wooded cul-de-sac neighborhood.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$374,900

1ST AD!



NORTH ANDOVER Attractive Colonial home with Farmer's porch featuring a new kitchen with Corian counters, hardwood floor and slider to deck. Fireplaces in living room and family room. Three spacious bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Acre lot on cul-de-sac.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$419,900

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3!



ANDOVER - 18 Korinthian Way 1st ad! Location! Spacious well-maintained 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with hardwood floors throughout. Updated kitchen, dining room with sliders to 3 season sunroom and deck. Family room with floor-to-ceiling fireplace and sliders to patio. Beautiful yard!
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$439,900

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3!



NORTH ANDOVER - 171 Abbott St. 1st ad! Sunny 8+ room Colonial. Cathedral ceiling fireplaced family room has French doors to deck overlooking level lot, 2nd family room in finished lower level. Master bedroom with walk-in closet and private bath.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$459,900

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3!



NORTH ANDOVER 60 Johnson Cir. Very spacious custom Contemporary Ranch featuring 3-4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, freshly painted interior with flexible floor plan, 3 finished rooms in lower level, beautiful yard and gardens.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$465,000

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



ANDOVER - 422 River Rd. Special 9 room Tudor home with well designed floor plan and generous room sizes. Like new interior features 4 big bedrooms, 2.5 baths, fireplaced family room, gorgeous sunroom, and private, serene 2.7 acre setting.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$519,900*

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4!



ANDOVER - 133 Elm St. 1st ad! Custom built contemporary 4 bedroom Ranch with 2 full baths. Fireplaced living room has wall of glass overlooking extremely private backyard surrounded by trees. Heated enclosed porch. 2 car garage.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$529,900

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3!



TOPSFIELD - 12 Thompson Ln. Exceptional Classic Colonial with excellent floor plan on private tree studded .9 acre lot. This 9 room home features 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 fireplaces and expansion potential over the 3 car garage!
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$535,000*

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3!



NORTH ANDOVER - 287 Forest St. New construction! Appealing new 9 room, 2.5 bath Colonial on private wooded 3+ acre lot. Open feeling with granite kitchen, step-down fireplaced family room, large master bedroom, central a/c.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$549,900

OPEN SUNDAY 1-3!



ANDOVER - 8 Bridle Path 1st ad! Well maintained Wynwood built 8 room, 4 bedroom Colonial in fantastic location. Hardwood floors throughout, fireplaces in living room and great room, enclosed porch.
Call 978-475-2201 Exclusive \$579,900

1ST AD!



ANDOVER Bright and sunny 8 room Colonial in private setting abutting woods in a prime near town neighborhood. Hardwood floors throughout. Freshly painted in and out. 2 year old fully applianced kitchen. Newer windows & heating system.
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1ST AD!



ANDOVER Spacious oversized 9 room home set on park-like property near town. 30' maple kitchen has breakfast area with wall of glass, 31' sunken living room with fireplace and window wall, huge dining room, 3 season room, 3.5 baths.
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OPEN SUNDAY 1-3!



ANDOVER - 21 Knollcrest Dr. Fabulous transitional Colonial on 2 acre lot at end of cul-de-sac! New granite kitchen, sunroom, first floor suite with private bath, 3 fireplaces, 4-5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Wonderful neighborhood of comparable homes.
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Valerie Duffield



Julie Gerraughty Rubino



Coletta Fanuele



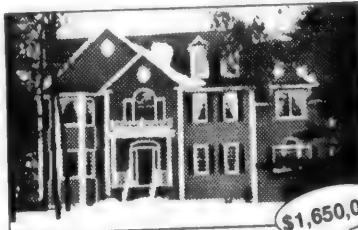
Linda Fitzgerald Connolly



Dorothy Hardock



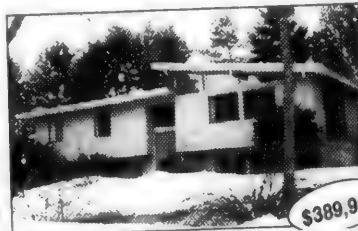
Karen Hamill



Andover - 10 rm, 5 bdrm, 4.5 bath Col w/9 ft ceil., kit w/cherry cabinets, sunrm w/3 walls of wndws. Mstr suite w/deck. Quality throughout!
Call Valerie Roberts.



North Andover - Open House Sun 1-3 PM 1Col 9+ rms, incld corian kit, grt rm, frpl din rm, htd sunrm study or 4th bdrm. Mstr suite w/mrbl bath.
Dir: Rte 114 to 1080 Turnpike St. Visit Silvija Aprans.



Andover - Multi-level 8 rm, 4 bdrm, 2.5 baths w/lots of wndws, high ceil., frpl fam rm.
Call Bill Buck.



North Andover - New Construction! 10 rm, 4 bd rm, 2.5 bath Col w/many upgrades. 2 frpls, hrdwd flrs, 3 car garage, town sewer, and more.
Call John Cusack.



North Andover - 8 room, 3 bedroom Col w/2.5 baths located in North Andover's library area.
Call Bill Buck.



North Andover - 6 rm, 3 bdrm Condex w/1.5 baths, din rm, liv rm w/hrdwd floor and more.
Call Bill Buck.



Andover - Reduced! Beautiful Dutch Col in PA area offering 8 spacious rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths.
Call Bill Buck.



North Andover - Contemp Col w/vault ceil. in entry. Frpl liv rm, frch drs fam rm. Game rm w/skylight.
Call Norma Hyder.



Andover - Johnson Acres, 6 rms, 3 bdrms, frpl liv rm. LL fam rm. \$399,900
Call Bill Buck.



North Andover - Library Area, 6 rm, 3 bdrm Bungalow w/high ceiling, din rm w/built-ins, hrdwd in most rooms.
Call Linda Connolly.



North Andover - Gorgeous 8 room, 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath Cape w/garage. Frpl, hrdwd flrs, many updates.
Call Carol Mejail.



North Andover - 8 room Antique Cape w/3 bdrms, 1.5 baths near historic Steven Coolidge House.
Call Carla Burns.



Debby Hughes



Norma Hyder



Joan Johnson



Lynne Markos



Carol Kathios Mejail



Mary Morello



Margaret O'Connor



Mary O'Donoghue



Audrey Orrell



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ANDOVER, 1st AD!
Wynwood built home at Regency Ridge
Exemplifies grandeur throughout
Spectacular kit opens to palatial fam rm
1st flr mstr w/gas FP & sitting area
4 spac BR on the 2nd floor - 5900 liv area
Another new listing by J. B. Doherty x212
jbdoherty@andoverliving.com \$2,250,000

NEW LISTING



ANDOVER, 1st AD!
Wynwood built - best of neighborhoods
eat-in kitchen w/Conan countertops
Step down to cath cell skylit FP fam rm
Seller to consider offers in range
VRM #47 \$649,000 to \$748,876
Another new listing by Pam Lebowitz x265
pamela5100@aol.com

NEW LISTING



NORTH ANDOVER, 1st AD!
2 year young magnificent Colonial
Windkist Farm - quality thruout
9/4/2.5 - granite kit/white cabs
Circular drwy - acre lot - 2 tier deck
Turned staircase - HW - 1st flr office
Another new listing by Mary Gilmartin
mgilmartin@andoverliving.com \$799,900

NEW LISTING



NORTH ANDOVER, 1st AD!
Olde Center Antique Colonial
over an acre with beautiful views
7/3+2.5 - wide pine floors thruout
1st flr laundry & pantry - ample closets
detached gar w/loft - cozy scnd porch
Another new listing by Mary Gilmartin x248
mgilmartin@andoverliving.com \$449,900

NEW LISTING



NORTH ANDOVER, 1st AD!
2 BR Condex Townhouse
Pristine condition - 5/2/1.5
Berber carpeting - freshly painted
New oak HW floors - full bsmt
Convenient location - lg deck
Light & bright - beaut decor \$214,900
A new listing by Doris Lindsay x115

NEW LISTING



WILMINGTON, 1st AD!
Almost new Cape ~ 7/4/2.5
eat-in kit w sliders to deck
Mstr w/expansive jacuzzi for 2
2x6 constr - yard to be filled/graded
Seller to consider offers in range
VRM #34 \$279,900 to \$318,876
Another new listing by Pam Lebowitz x265

NEW LISTING



NORTH ANDOVER, 1st AD!
TAKE VIRTUAL TOUR #031
8+ rm Contemp on cul-de-sac
Eat-in kit w/top of the line appli
1st flr mstr - 3 BR - 3.5 BA
Skylit fam rm w/cath cell & FP
Tennis ct/patio/acre \$669,900
A new listing by Kathy Edholm x217

NEW LISTING



OPEN HOUSE SUN 1-3
33 Enmore Street

ANDOVER, 1st AD!
Shawsheen Area charming Col
terrific location near schools & town
Large dining room w/built-ins
1 car detached garage with storage
Hardwood floors - cozy family room
A new listing by the Moody Team x251
bmoody@andoverliving.com \$339,000

OPEN HOUSE SUN 1-4
29 High Street



ANDOVER!
Carefully renovated w/attention to detail!
Charming in town Colonial on wooded lot
cherry cabs - corian countertops
9 rm - 3 fireplaces - garage
wood thermopane windows
new light filled family room \$549,900
A listing by Sue Bishop x253

WYNWOOD BUILT



ANDOVER!
WYNWOOD AT SOUTH SCHOOL!
Dramatic entry foyer w/curved stairway
gourmet kit - pickled cabs/dble oven
Stone FP fam rm - priv mstr w/jacuzzi
9/4/2.5 - office - sunroom - \$859,000
A listing by Deborah Lucci Perrone x126
dperrone@andoverliving.com

NEW CONSTRUCTION



ANDOVER, STATE OF THE ART
Haggetts Pond - private setting
12 RM - 5+ BR - 4.5 BA - 3 car attached
energy efficient systems - 4+ acres
2 back to back gas FP - cat 5 wiring
VRM #50 \$789,000 TO \$898,876
Another new listing by Amy Sebell x236
amy@amysebell.com

OPEN HOUSE SUN 1-3
10 Binney Street



ANDOVER!
Shawsheen Village 7 rm Colonial
Spacious fam rm opens to lg patio
Freshly painted 1st flr - 3 bedrooms
newly tiled bath - redone pine flrs
1 car detached - nice yard - sunny thruout
Another listing by Nick Geranos x121
ngeranos@andoverliving.com \$269,900

NEW CONSTRUCTION



VIRTUAL TOUR #087

ANDOVER, NEW CONSTRUCTION!
An OMEGA custom built home
just minutes from 93 & 495 on acre lot
4100+ sq. ft. living space - extras galore
luxurious mstr w/48" x 72" marble whirlpool
10 rm - 4 BR - 2.5 BA - 3 car attached
Another listing by Chris Doherty x230
cdoherty@andoverliving.com - \$959,900

ANDOVER GARDENS



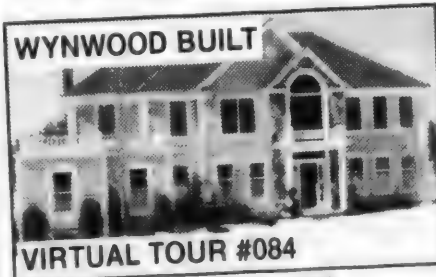
ANDOVER!
Desirable Andover Gardens Condo
Great commuter loc & close to town
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1 BR - deeded parking - pool - deck
Upper level - Will not last!
Another listing by Sheryl Doherty x216
sdoherty@andoverliving.com \$119,900

VIRTUAL TOUR #086



ANDOVER!
Colonial w/loads of living space
beautiful acre plus lot - landscaped grounds
large tiled foyer - 3 fireplaces
9 rm - 4 BR - 2.5 BA - 3700 sq ft
banquet size din rm - 2400 sq ft in low lev
A listing by Beth Poulo x221
bpoulo@andoverliving.com \$579,900

WYNWOOD BUILT



VIRTUAL TOUR #084

ANDOVER, 2 YEARS YOUNG
A Wynwood Custom Built Home
near Phillips Academy & Pike School
5300+ sq. ft. living space - amenities galore
Scandia kitchen - bridal staircase - 2FP
11 rm - 4/5 BR - 3 car attached
Another listing by Amy Sebell x236
amy@amysebell.com - \$1,150,000

NEW PRICE



ANDOVER, NEW PRICE!
Exceptional Home - updates galore
great in-town location on cul-de-sac
cook's granite kitchen/custom oak cabs
8/4.3 - patio - deck - gunite pool
new wndws/roof/heat sys & hot wtr
Another listing by Paula Carroll x135
pcarroll@andoverliving.com \$499,900

NEW PRICE



ANDOVER! NEW PRICE!
Walk to town - beautiful Ranch - 6/3/2
Quality updated throughout - HW
New windows - generous rooms
sunroom overlooks conservation land
FP fam rm - built-ins - \$399,900
A listing by Cheri Apelian x234
capelian@andoverliving.com



ANDOVER, EXPANSION POSSIBILITIES!
Walk to town - Abuts AVIS land
6/3+1.5 - HW - sunroom off mstr
Large eat-in kit w/wood stove - HW
Semi-finish walkup attic for expansion
Lower level laundry and playroom
A listing by Beth Poulo x221
bpoulo@andoverliving.com \$315,000

April 5, 2001

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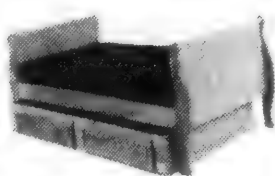
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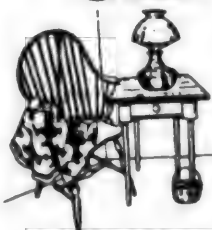
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Tips for working with an interior designer

(NU) - Do you want to decorate your home, but don't know where to get started? An interior designer can help - if you find the right one.

"An interior designer will help you develop a design plan for your home that will allow you to achieve your goals and stay on budget," says Gwen Simpkins, design director for HomePortfolio.com, an Internet site that provides both consumers and designers with information about home design and products. "A client and designer must work as a team to share a common vision for the future of the project."

Finding and working with an interior designer to turn your house into your dream home doesn't have to be difficult. Just follow the quick tips below to help you select the right person to remake your home.

- Know your stuff: Research is key to finding the best designer for you and getting started on the right foot.

- Check the Web: Go online to Web sites such as HomePortfolio.com. The site's designer directory lists designers in your area and displays their designer profiles.

- Ask around: Talk with friends and

family about their design and renovation experiences.

- Know what you want: Understand your desires and concerns so you can clearly express yourself.

- Speak freely: Be comfortable articulating your goals and style preferences. "The most common mistake homeowners make when selecting an interior designer is being too casual about the interviewing process," says Ms. Simpkins. "It is extremely important to determine whether the designer's ideas and personality agree with yours."

- Set a spending limit: Work out your budget beforehand so you can discuss any limitations.

- Be specific: A picture really is worth a thousand words. Read design magazines, and clip pictures of the rooms you like.

- Start small: Focus on one room, such as the living room, to develop an effective working relationship with your designer.

- Keep in touch: Talk with your designer often about budget and timelines to avoid misunderstandings down the road.

- Don't forget to listen: Be open to your designer's suggestions - after all, the designer is the expert.

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Choosing the right windows can help homeowners conserve energy

If you're in the market for new windows, you've probably noticed that the subject isn't as simple as a wood frame and a few panes of glass - and it hasn't been for some time. Over the last few years, however, advances in technology have shown that windows can play an even more important role in conserving energy than thought before.

Back around 1980, people who replaced their old windows with double-glazed units were at the forefront in the fight to save energy. Those who opted for triple-glazed windows, the limit of technology at the time, were considered energy fanatics. But, even those fanatics were forging a weak link in the energy chain of their homes, because those triple-glazed units had insulation values of about R-3, while the walls that held them had R values that ranged from 11 to 19. In many well-insulated houses, therefore, the windows were simply holes in the wall where vast amounts of energy escaped. In fact, the average home loses about 25 percent of the energy it consumes through heat loss at windows.

Today, things are different. Most windows are still energy drains, but there are units available that are much more energy-efficient than the glazing systems of the past. Some windows have insulation values as high as R-8. But, these currently account for a very small part of the window market. Plain double-glazed windows make up the bulk of the market, but fortunately, most window manufacturers and just about all of the better-known companies sell some version of high-performance glazing.

Manufacturers are able to offer better insulated glazings because of the development of low-e (low-emissivity) coatings. Basically, a low-e coating does a good job of reflecting radiant heat - the kind of heat given off by bodies, furniture and some heating systems. When applied to a window, the coating reflects the heat back into the home, raising the R value of the window. Some low-e coatings are also used to reflect outside heat radiated by the street and buildings.

Some coatings are bonded to the glass,

continued on page 12

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Home Improvement and Decorating

Editor: Sharla D. Collier

Reporter: Eric M. Danis

Photographer: Carol Van Doren

Layout: Stephanie Musgrave



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Composite decking solves spring project doldrums

Moynihan Lumber
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The severe weather of this past winter has hastened North Shore homeowners to consider major spring home improvement projects. Chief among those plans is the routine repair or replacement of outside decking. A new type of decking called composite decking, which provides an alternative to the hassle of routine decking repair and maintenance, has experienced growth in both recognition and popularity.

Composite lumber products are typically made from a combination of hardwood sawdust and reclaimed plastics and thus provide the best features of wood and plastic decking.

Unlike poorly maintained pressure-treated wood lumber, composite decking does not rot, split, crack, warp or require sealing, staining or weatherproofing. Additionally, composite decking suffers less from water damage than traditional decking solutions. Unlike plastic decking materials, it cuts, fastens, sands, and paints easily to look and feel more like real wood.

Another cited reason for the popularity of composite decking is its safety features. It stays cool underfoot, won't support fungal growth and is splinter-free and slip-resistant. Composite decking also contains no hazardous chemicals and has been approved for ground and water contact.

The chief drawback to composite decking is that it is not designed for primary structural load-bearing elements (such as posts, joists, and beams) that need to be constructed of wood. However, with its wide range of uses, composite decking provides amazing durability, easy care, and comfort.

Composite lumber is available at lumberyards nationwide under brand names such as Trex, CorrectDeck, and Fiberon.

Moynihan Lumber, located in North Reading, Beverly, and Plaistow, N.H., has seen a rise in the sale of composite lumber in recent years. "People like the fact that they don't have to face the task of repairing, painting, or staining their decks year after year," says Lou Sandomato, a counter salesperson and computer deck designer at Moynihan Lumber in Beverly.

Cliff Lord, yard manager for Moynihan Lumber in North Reading, says "It's definitely an option to consider. It [composite decking] is a good wood alternative, especially with its comparable price when you factor in the costs for stains, replacement boards, and other care your deck will need."

Moynihan Lumber of North Reading and Moynihan Lumber of Beverly offer free computer deck designs that may help determine if composite lumber is best for a home's needs.

Moynihan Lumber's Web site -

www.moynihanlumber.com - features an online Deck Project Planning Center, which may help in the initial stages of planning.

Speaking to a contractor or a local lumberyard

is also a good starting point.

With the benefits of composite lumber, deck repair could be the last thing on next year's spring projects checklist!

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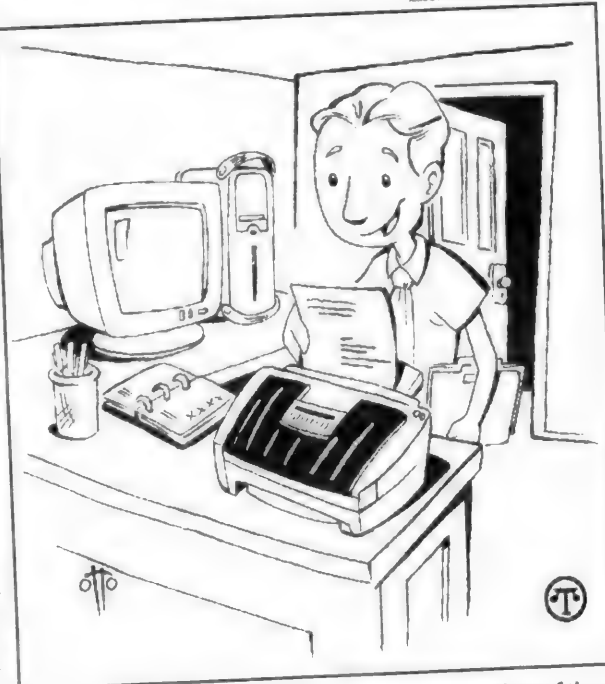
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(NAPS) - If you work at home, you're far from alone, even if there's no one else there. Studies show that more than 16.5 million Americans, or about 12 percent of the workforce, now work at home at least once a month.

Many of these people have found incorporating a home office environment into their household can help eliminate some of the time spent commuting and working overtime. This can mean a big improvement in the quality time you have for your family and yourself. With a well-equipped home office, you



Devoting a little space to a home office may save you lots of time in the long run.

may be able to telecommute, free-lance or even start a home-based business.

When assessing what area of the home office needs a little improvement, it may pay to first think about tasks performed on a regular basis. This will help you decide how to get the best return on your home office investment.

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A second look at adding central air conditioning to your home

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If recollections of the March blizzard are still making you shiver, you're probably not thinking about air conditioning. But, the summer months will be here sooner than you think. If you don't already have central air in your home, this is a good time to look into installing a high-efficiency system to keep you cool and comfortable all summer long. Prices are typically a bit lower in the off-season because contractors have a little more room in their schedules and demand has not hit its peak. Some also offer attractive financing options, such as no payments until fall, as an added incentive.

"Homeowners who may have ruled out central air conditioning in the past for reasons such as cost or aesthetics should really take a closer look," says Climate Design Sales Manager James J. Riordan. "People who've never lived in a home with central air often have misconceptions about it. But, you would be hard-pressed to find someone with a central air conditioning system who would ever go back to life without it."

One common misconception is that central air conditioning is expensive to install and operate, but according to Mr. Riordan, a correctly installed system can actually be an economical alternative for cooling your home during the summer.

"Portable room air conditioning units tend to be noisy, unattractive and inefficient," says Mr. Riordan. "Homeowners who choose central air conditioning find that it's a much better way to keep themselves comfortable in the summer months."

For homeowners who already have a forced hot air system, Mr. Riordan says air conditioning is relatively easy and inexpensive to install. The contractor installs a cooling coil in your home's existing furnace and places a condenser outside. In the summer, the blower from your furnace draws the air through the cooling coil and distributes it throughout your home.

If you don't have forced hot air, a combination blower and coil unit can be placed in the attic or basement. Rectangular and round ducts would carry the air throughout the home. Registers would be installed in your floor or ceiling.

If you've ever visited the home of someone who has central air and thought that it made too much noise, that's because their system was not installed properly, says Mr. Riordan.

"Central air systems are very quiet when they're designed and installed correctly," he says.

The two main sources of sound from an air system are the blower and excessive air turbulence. To ensure a system runs quietly, quality installations include fitting ductwork with acoustical liner. This prevents blower and air noise from echoing throughout the system. In addition, the units in the attic should be hung from the rafters to prevent vibration on the ceiling below. Be sure any estimates you receive include these services.

Selecting a contractor

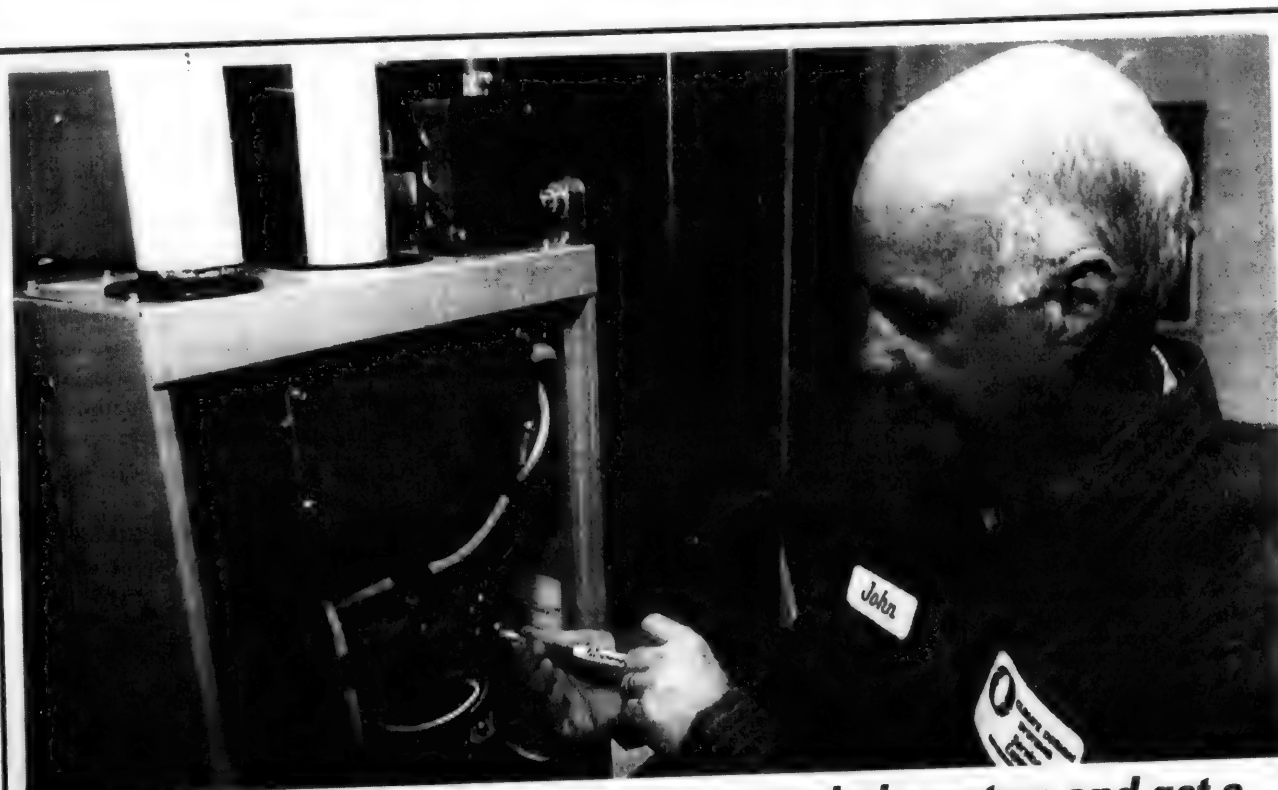
One way to determine how well a dealer stands behind his work is to look at the labor warranty. It should match the parts warranty on equipment. The best contractors will send out a professional representative of the company to perform a complete home survey. This is a fact-gathering visit that should include measuring the rooms, insulation, attic and basement. It should also include a brief interview to identify your lifestyle require-

ments and any unusual factors to consider in design, such as medical conditions.

If possible, visit a dealer's facility before making a decision. The more services a dealer can provide in-house, the more options become available for your home. For instance, Climate Design Systems has an in-house sheet metal shop, enabling

custom fabrication of ductwork; and crews composed of installers, sheet metal fabricators, plumbers, pipe fitters, electricians and service technicians.

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Get your lawn mower ready for action

(NAPSA) - With the mowing season almost upon us, it's time to make sure your lawn mower is as ready as you are to tackle those lawn-care chores.

Briggs & Stratton, a producer of small engines for lawn mowers and other outdoor power equipment, recommends a regular, simple maintenance program to keep your mower performing at its best and to extend its useful life. Just follow this easy checklist:

1. Change the oil. Oil is the engine's lifeblood that removes contaminants, lubricates parts and dissipates heat. That's why it's important to make sure the crankcase contains an adequate supply of fresh oil. Before changing the oil, run the engine for several minutes until it warms up. Then, stop the engine, disconnect the spark plug and drain the oil into a pan or similar container. Refill the crankcase with high quality detergent oil that has a SG/CD classification on the label. Take the used oil to a local recycling center. It's environmentally unfriendly - and ille-

gal - to dump used motor oil on the ground or into a storm drain.

2. Check the air filter. Your air-cooled engine needs a constant supply of clean air. If your mower engine takes a disposable paper filter, simply replace it with a new filter. If the engine requires a foam-type filter, remove the sponge from the filter assembly, soak it in a pan of warm water and squeeze it dry. Then, apply a few drops of clean oil into the sponge and place it back in the filter assembly.

3. Use fresh fuel. Gasoline turns stale after about 60 days and can form gum in your engine's carburetor, resulting in expensive repairs. Eliminate the problem by routinely filling your engine's tank with fresh fuel. If gas must remain in the tank for a prolonged period of time, add a fuel stabilizer to keep it fresh and to ensure a clean fuel system that leads to easier starting.

4. Sharpen the blade. Think about what a dull razor does to your face or legs when shaving. Similarly, a dull

mower blade can bruise, bend and damage your lawn, making it susceptible to disease. After disconnecting the spark plug, examine the blade for wear or damage. Have it professionally sharpened at least once annually.

5. Keep things clean. While you're checking the blade, remove any dirt and caked-on grass from under the mower deck. Squirt some vegetable oil cooking spray under the deck to reduce clipping build-up and to prevent rust. This will also save you a lot of work when cleaning the mower after each use.

You'll also want to have your mower tuned up annually to keep it running smoothly and efficiently. A typical professional tune-up includes a new spark plug, an oil change, a blade sharpening, a new air filter and cleaning of various parts such as belts, cables and safety switches.

Reviewing your lawn mower owner's manual can provide additional maintenance advice for your specific model.

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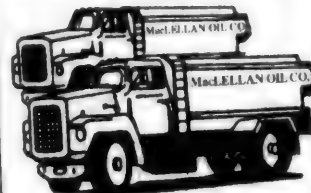
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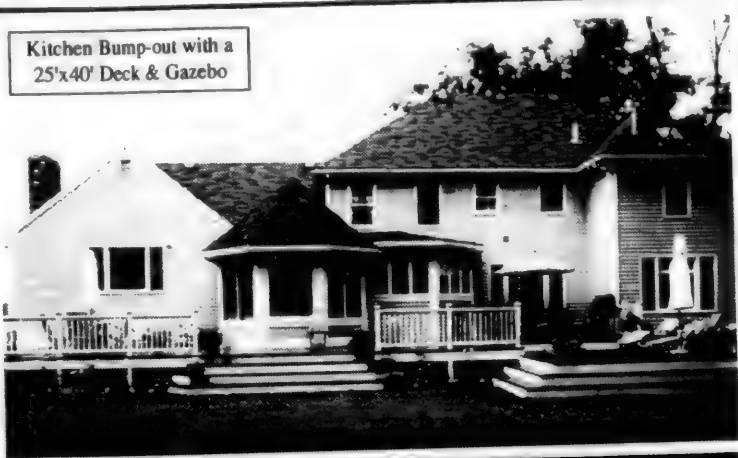
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Wallpaper-stripping tips from the experts

(NAPSA) - Stripping wallpaper need not strip you of your sanity. Before you choose a technique, find out what's involved. Some methods may not be worth the effort.

Following are some wallpaper-stripping tips from the experts at the Zinsser Company.

- Some people use vinegar and water to strip wallpaper, but that method is messy and not particularly effective.

- Steamers are less messy but can be hazardous to use and tiring to hold against the wall.

- One of the most effective methods involves using a gel type of wall stripper. The gel is applied easily and conveniently with a paint roller or brush, and it clings to the walls without sag or drip.

This gel is faster and works more effectively than homemade vinegar and water solutions, as it contains enzymes that break down the bond that holds the paper to the wall. It is also odorless and non-toxic.

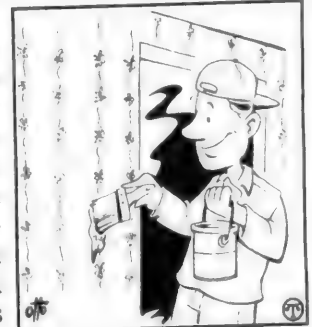
Most wallpaper today has a washable, waterproof surface, so before applying the stripper, perforate the surface of the wallpaper to let the stripper penetrate and reach the old glue.

- To perforate wallpaper and avoid damaging walls in the process, many experts recommend a gadget called the Paper-Tiger, a palm-held tool with small cutting wheels that moves quickly over the wall in all directions to create tiny holes in the wallcovering surface.

The tool won't damage the wall and works on all types of wallcoverings, including painted wallcoverings and multiple layers.

After scoring, apply the stripper and wait about 20 to 30 minutes before starting to remove the paper.

To scrape the paper off the wall, use a special paper scraper for wallpaper removal instead of a putty knife, as this tool is less likely to gouge the underlying wet wallboard.

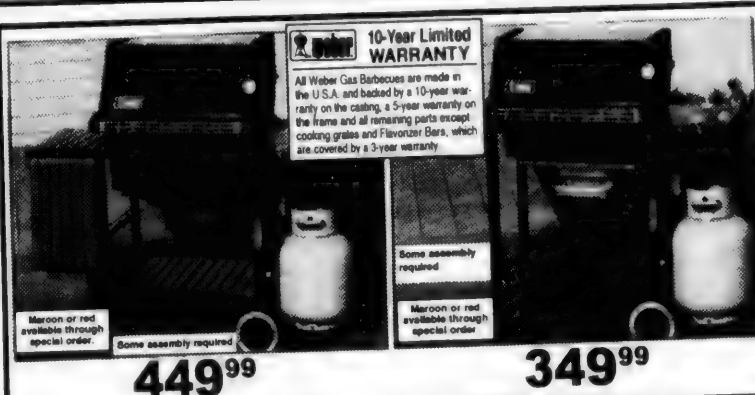


Since most modern wallpaper has a waterproof surface, it should be perforated before you apply stripper.

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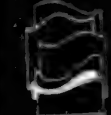
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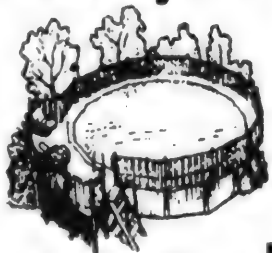
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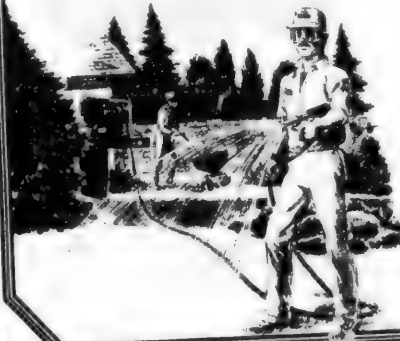


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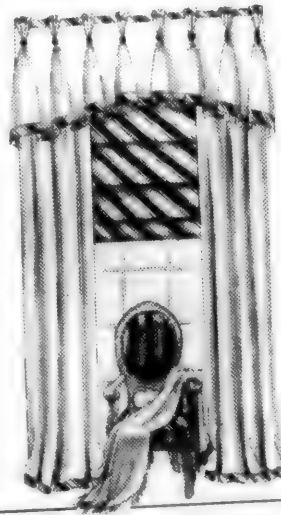
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Maintaining an asphalt driveway this season

To maintain an asphalt driveway that originally was installed with at least a 4-inch depth over a good subbase, what usually is required is periodic filling of minor cracks that may develop and cosmetic sealing. Driveways exposed to a lot of extreme weather, or those with a relatively shallow (1- to 2-inch) thickness, will require more attention. Following are specific repair techniques for common driveway problems.

To repair cracks, use black-top driveway crack filler. This material comes in a cartridge and is used for cracks up to one-quarter-inch wide. Brush or vacuum loose material out of the crack, then lay in a continuous bead of filler. Allow it to set for about 10 minutes, then stroke over it with a putty knife to level and firm the bead to the crack's edges. If the crack is more than one-half-inch deep, it should first be packed with sand to within one-quarter-

inch of the surface.

A large pothole in the driveway is repaired with cold-mix, an asphalt-based filler that has larger aggregate than driveway patching compound. Typically, it comes in a 60- to 70-pound bag.

Use a cold chisel and hammer to chop out crumbling pavement until the pothole is rimmed with a clean, firm edge. If possible, undercut the hole slightly to lock the patch in place. Dig down until you get to a solid surface and remove loose debris from the hole's bottom. Shovel the mix into the hole, mounding it so it's about one-half-inch higher than the surrounding surface. Compact the mound by tamping with a block of 2x4.

You can also pack the cold-mix by placing a scrap piece of plywood over the mound and driving back and forth over it with the front wheels of your car. Deep potholes should be

filled and tamped in layers. Add some mix, tamp, then add more mix and tamp.

A coat of waterproof black-top sealer, applied every two or three years, will protect the driveway from the sun, rain and snow and will improve its appearance.

The sealer comes in 5-gallon cans and usually needs only to be stirred before use. Read the product label to determine how much area it will cover. Usually this ranges between 200 and 300 square feet, depending on the porosity of the surface. Apply the sealer with a long-handled applicator that has a squeegee on one side and a brush on the other. Roller applicators are also available.

First, pour enough sealer from the can to work a 3- or 4-foot-wide strip across the driveway. Using the

squeegee side of the applicator, spread the sealer across the driveway, working it into all tiny cracks and crevices. When the strip has been covered, flip over to the brush side and use it to level the coating and smooth the ridges left by the squeegee. Work the brush at

right angles to the path worked by the squeegee.

Don't leave puddles of sealer and don't spread it too thin. It's best to apply two coats. Read the label to determine how long to allow the sealer to dry before recoating.

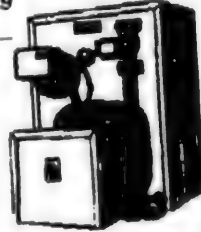
Source: Popular Mechanics

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RIGHT WINDOWS

continued from page 3

others are incorporated into the glass and still others are applied to a film that's suspended between two panes of glass. There are pros and cons for each type. For example, coatings that are bonded to the surface of the glass, called soft coat, offer the best insulating properties. However, coatings that are part of the glass, called hard coat, are more durable.

The type of coating probably doesn't mean all that much to the homeowner who is buying new windows. What does mean a lot is that the low-e coatings are invisible and that the windows that con-

tain them have insulation values of about R-3. That means that a double-pane window with a low-e coating has the same insulating properties as a triple-glazed window, but the low-e window is about 50 percent lighter.

To increase the thermal effectiveness of low-e windows, manufacturers can fill the air space between the panes with an inert gas, usually argon, but others are used. These gases are more effective than air at decreasing heat loss through conduction. When combined with low-e coatings, gas-filled double-glazed windows can have an insulation value of around R-4.

Source: Popular Mechanics

Over the last few years, advances in technology have shown that windows can play an even more important role in conserving energy than thought before.

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Keeping cold-weather pests out of your house

(NAPSA) - When unwelcome visitors show up at your home, it can be a bother. The uninvited two-legged visitor is bad enough, but those with four or more legs can be real pests. The variety of nature's unwanted visitors surprises many homeowners. They may include rodents, yellow jackets and cold-weather pests such as moths or beetles.

Following are some suggestions from Stoy Hedges, Terminix manager of technical services/pest control operations, on how to keep unwanted pests and rodents from visiting your home.

- To avoid pantry pests, you must find the source of the infestation. Check packages you seldom use, especially foods such as cereals, grain products, nuts and pet foods. When found, wrap any heavily infested packages in a sturdy plastic bag and dispose of them with your normal trash.

- You can help prevent rodents from moving in by cleaning up any spilled food and garbage that may attract rodents, keeping all garbage in tightly closed trash containers and making sure outside doors, windows and vents fit snugly. Remember, a mouse needs only a 1/4-inch crack or hole to get inside.

- Foraging yellow jackets can be a serious nuisance and a health threat at outdoor functions. The first step to solving the problem is to clean up all spilled sweet materials thoroughly, placing soda cans and anything similar in tightly-closed, heavy plastic bags. Wash and rinse solid surfaces and food or drink serving utensils frequently. Keep all sweet foods,

drinks and fruits covered until they are about to be eaten. If a nest is discovered around the home, you may need to contact a professional pest management company.

The best way to choose a reputable pest management professional is to look for a company with representatives who are knowledgeable about pest habits, types of construction and

treatment specifications.

Ask friends and associates to recommend companies they have used. Also, look for memberships in industry associations, such as the National Pest Management Association, which provide ethical guidelines and technical information. Find out whether the company offers continued coverage that includes treatment for re-infestation and repairs for future damage. Finally, be certain the company is licensed by your state's regulatory agency.



Be sure all outside doors and windows fit snugly. Mice need only a 1/4-inch crack or hole to get inside.

ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF NAPSA

Restoring minor patches of failed stucco

Whether it's smooth and scored to look like stone, textured or pebble-dashed, stucco is a decorative finish that adds an element of fashion to many old houses. As such, it should be maintained and restored in the best manner possible. Many of the ingredients of early stucco either aren't available today or, if they are, have changed over the years. Because of this, it's nearly impossible to get an exact duplication of an original stucco. It is, however possible to come close enough to restore minor patches of failed stucco. The trick here is to try to match the original stucco mixture as closely as possible in strength, composition, color and texture.

Homes built around the turn of the century usually have original stucco that is cement-based. A simple way to determine whether your stucco is cement or lime-based is to put a piece of the stucco in a glass of water. If it doesn't stay firm and most of it dissolves and becomes mushy, it's safe to assume you're working with a soft lime/sand stucco.

There are many different recipes for this soft stucco. An early one calls for two parts sand and one part lime. Today, you'd add a little portland cement to this mix for workability, along with animal hair if the original had it. For those patching the harder cement stuccos, a mix with a high content of portland cement should be used.

Don't be tempted to patch a soft lime-based stucco with a harder portland cement-based stucco (or vice versa). They aren't compatible. The materials' differing rates of expansion and contraction generally will cause your construction work to crack.

In most cases, the spots where stucco has failed on your house walls will be

pretty obvious. But, there are situations where the lath may have pulled away from the wall, causing bulges or bubbles in the outer surface. After a thorough visual inspection, walking around the house and lightly tapping with a rubber or wooden mallet, any spots where you suspect underlying failure may reveal hidden spots of damage that should be repaired.

Don't try to tackle too large of a spot at once. Make sure the underlying surface is clean and sound, and test your mixture in an inconspicuous spot. You might have to alter your mix a bit to get the best match. Make sure, too, that your patches match any existing control joints, which are breaks in the stucco that allow for shrinkage and expansion.

Stucco is commonly applied in three coats, although occasionally you'll see walls that are only wearing two. The first coat, called the scratch coat, is generally 1/4 to 3/4 of an inch thick and is applied to metal lath, dampened wood lath or masonry. As its name implies, it's scratched or roughened so the second coat adheres.

When it's dry - usually within 24 to 72 hours - the second or brown coat, which is usually the same thickness as the first, is applied. In a plain, two-coat application, this will be the final coat. More often, a third, or finish, coat of stucco tops it.

If that's the case, the brown coat, too, is lightly crosshatched to facilitate the final coat's adhesion. It's in this thin top coat - often only a quarter of an inch thick - that any texture or design is added. It's applied after the brown coat sets.

Source: Popular Mechanics

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Striped and swirled roses add a decorator's touch to your garden

(NAPSA) - From trellises to archways to garden pathways, everything's coming up roses. Striped roses, that is.

This season, many gardeners are using Striped Accents, a collection of striped and swirled roses, as a decorating tool to add color and pattern to the landscape.

Blooming in big bursts of stripes and swirls, the roses in Striped Accents can turn an ordinary garden into an extraordinary display.

"Gardeners like to add pattern and color to their gardens in much the same way that they decorate the interiors of their homes," says Tom Carruth, hybridizer and horticulturalist for Weeks Roses. "These roses are so eye-catching, they're sure to be showstoppers in any garden setting."

Striped Accents features six different rose varieties, each ideal for adding a decorating touch to different areas of the garden.

Scentimental: With an intoxicating, spicy scent, every petal of this burgundy-red and creamy white-swirled floribunda is unique. This rose looks great when mixed in flower beds, mass plantings or borders.

Oranges 'n' Lemons: This yellow-striped orange shrub can be trained as a climber or pillar in milder climates. The fruity scented bush works well when mixed with other foundation plantings.

Berries 'n' Cream: The repeat-flowering, vigorous climber has medium, ruffled blooms of old rose pink and creamy white. Bouquet-like clusters come on strong stems that can be trained along fences or walls and up trellises.

George Burns: This compact, yet free-flowering floribunda blooms in bright, ever-changing colors of yellow, red and pink with cream stripes. When mixed in flower



Berries 'n' Cream, a rose-pink and creamy white climber, is one of six roses in a new collection.

beds, mass plantings and borders, George Burns adds cheer to the entire garden.

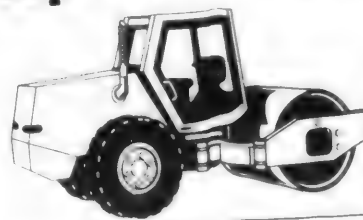
Rockin' Robin: Put a little rhythm into the landscape with an up-tempo blend of pink, red and white-striped blooms. Rockin' Robin is great as a companion planting with other perennials.

Fourth of July: Create an explosion of color with big sprays of long-lasting velvety-red blossoms striped with bright white. Clusters of large, semi-double blossoms will re-bloom readily in the very first season. Train this sweetly scented climber along fences or walls and up trellises.

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"Hummingbird magnets" attract tiny birds to your garden

PHOTO BY H. ROSS HAWKINS, COURTESY OF THE HUMMINGBIRD SOCIETY

(IHIT) - Some plants act as "hummingbird magnets," attracting every delightful little bird for miles around. According to David Salman, president and chief horticulturist of High Country Gardens, the following perennial plants are guaranteed to attract hummingbirds to your garden.

- Agastache "Desert Sunrise" boasts large flower spikes that hummingbirds find irresistible. The small, cone-shaped flowers are a mixture of soft oranges, pinks and lavenders. "Desert Sunrise" blooms continuously from late summer through fall in U.S. Department of Agriculture hardiness zones five through 10. It's a tough plant that can survive drought and heat.

- Agastache aurantiaca "Just Peachy" also attracts nature's winged jewels with long, graceful flowering spikes covered with an eye-catching combination of soft pink and peach-colored flowers. With its designer colors, "Just Peachy" looks great when

planted with blue and pastel colors. It grows in zones six through 10.

- Salvia greggii "Wild Thing," also known as "Wild Thing" Autumn Sage, is a vigorous, fast-growing plant with stunning coral-pink flowers. Its ability to survive the cold, damp winters of the Midwest is a real plus, as it extends the range of a traditionally Southwestern plant to much of the United States. Plant "Wild Thing" in your garden and it will become an instant favorite among hummingbirds. It's suitable for zones five through nine.

- Aquilegia "Swallowtail," commonly known as "Swallowtail" columbine, is a vigorous plant with large, green leaves and sturdy stems that support masses of incredible yellow flowers. Not only do the flowers act as hummingbird magnets, but their long "tails" are reminiscent of swallowtail butterflies drifting through your garden. "Swallowtail" columbine can be planted in zones five through 10.



Hummingbirds can't resist the colorful flowers of Agastache "Desert Sunrise."

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Maintaining a backyard deck

If you're like many homeowners, the backyard deck is the focal point for warm-weather activities. But, as with most parts of your home, a certain amount of routine maintenance is required to keep your deck structurally sound, safe and looking its best.

While other types of lumber may have been used, chances are your deck is built of either cedar, redwood or pressure-treated yellow pine. These are the most commonly used materials because they are resistant to rot and insect damage. When exposed to the elements for extended periods, however, any wood will show signs of weathering. Even if the deck was originally treated with a stain or preservative, this treatment eventually needs to be renewed.

The first thing to do is inspect the surfaces of the deck and railing for excessive splintering. If splintering is a problem, sanding the surface is the simplest solution. Use a belt sander to smooth the boards on the deck surface. Sand only in the direction of the grain, and keep the

sander moving evenly to avoid gouging. Finish with a sanding block to remove roughness and hazardous splinters.

You'll find many stains and sealers designed specifically for your deck. Several manufacturers offer products called deck brighteners (actually bleaches), which remove stains and weathering from the wood surfaces. Apply these products according to the manufacturer's directions, usually with a stiff bristle brush, and rinse off thoroughly before applying any top coat. Be sure to wear gloves and eye protection when using these products.

Sealers protect your deck from moisture and are available clear or tinted to act as a stain. Sealers need to be renewed periodically to offer continuous protection. Stains are offered in a range of opacities for either hiding the grain completely or allowing it to be visible. When it comes to choosing a stain and sealer for your deck, check that the products are compatible and that they're suitable for the type of

continued on page 18

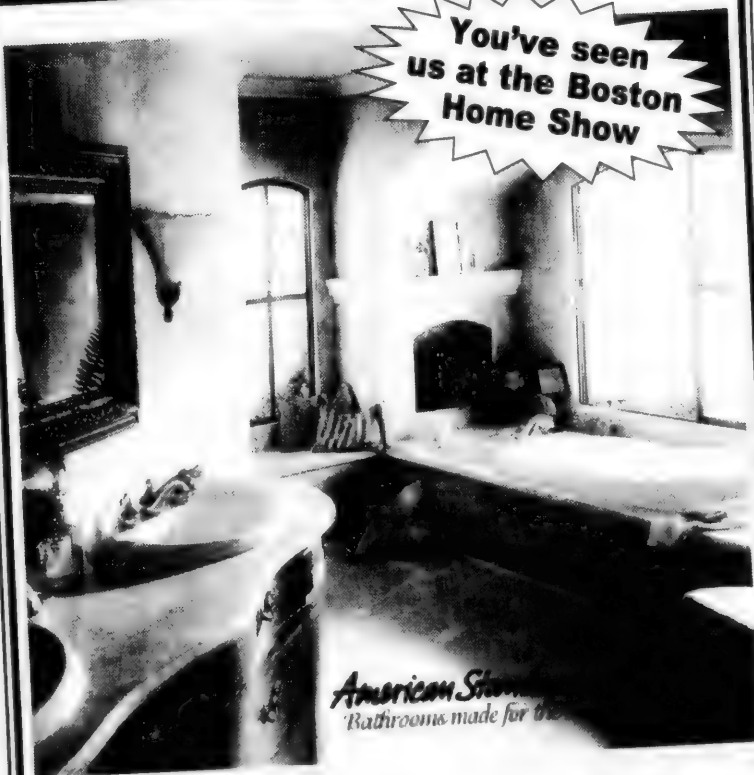
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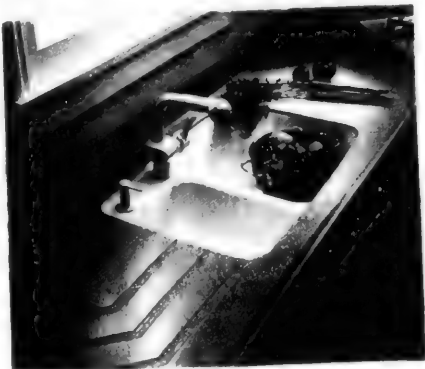
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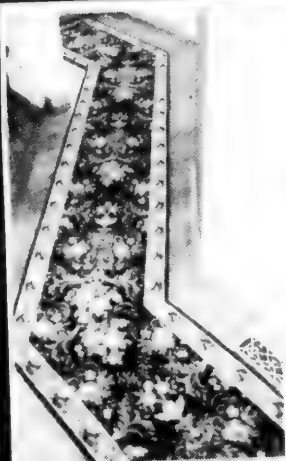
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BACKYARD DECK

continued from page 17

wood your deck is made with.

After a new deck has been exposed to the weather for a year or so, shrinkage of the lumber can cause nails to pop up above the deck surface. If the boards are still flat, reset the nails slightly below the deck surface, using a nailset or punch that matches the size of the nail heads. If the deck boards have cupped due to drying, there are several ways to approach the problem. If the cupping is not too severe, first remove the nails with a pry bar. Then, install galva-

nized decking screws to pull the board flat. If the board is too severely cupped for this technique, use a pry bar to remove the board. Then, use a circular saw to make a series of relief cuts along the back convex surface of the board, equal in depth to about one-third of the board's thickness. Replace the board and fasten with galvanized decking screws. If this technique fails to bring the board flat, install a new board in its place. Remember to always use galvanized nails or screws when working on a deck.

Source: Popular Mechanics

Even if the deck was originally treated with a stain or preservative, this treatment eventually needs to be renewed.

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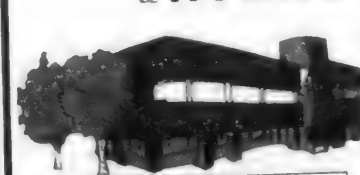
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PHOTO COURTESY OF IHIT

(IHIT) - Replacing a home's décor and furnishings can cost thousands - even tens of thousands - of dollars. The primary cause of premature fading and damage to that décor can be as close as the nearest window. The sunlight that you see outside includes infrared energy (heat), glare and two types of ultraviolet rays: UV-A and UV-B. How each of these UV rays work is a mystery to most people.

Since the 1980's, sunbathers have understood that UV sunscreens with high SPF ratings can protect sensitive skin from sunburns. But, only recently have consumers realized that those sunscreens blocked only UV-B, the wavelength responsible for bleaching dyed colors just like they sunburn skin.

By 1999, people learned that their old sunscreens did not block out all of the bad UV. Likewise, in 2000, homeowners are realizing that their windows do not block out all of the sun's damaging rays that can ruin fabrics, painted surfaces, wallpaper and woods.

UV-A is the primary culprit, because standard glass windows cannot stop it. Long-term exposure to full doses of UV-A rays can trigger photosensitive reactions or skin disease in people, as well as induce molecular instability in the fibers of carpets and fabrics. UV-A can contribute to prematurely aging beautiful furnishings and flooring. Wood cabinets and flooring can crack from the inside out from years of exposure to UV-A. In a nutshell, if the sunlight can reach something in the room, the UV-A rays can begin destroying it.

Until recently, the most common line of defense for the homeowner was a traditional window treatment that simply covered the window with shades, shutters, verticals, miniblinds or awnings. Unfortunately, these coverings only work to stop UV when they are closed; then the UV can eat them up, because UV is always destructive. If left open by mistake, these window treatments are functionally useless, and the UV damage to the home is persistent and cumulative. To help manage this expensive problem, inex-



Protect your interior furnishings with a do-it-yourself window film, which can reduce UV rays by 99 percent.

pensive do-it-yourself window films are available that reduce up to 99 percent of UV rays.

The best films to reduce fade damage also reduce extremes of light and heat, because some fabrics are sensitive to these rays as well. Available in the home décor departments at major home center stores, the films can reduce all three types of damaging rays without blocking your view through the windows. Available in two virtually invisible shades of gray and bronze, these very light films can help protect the colors and preserve the value of any décor for many years. And, they work all year, from the long dog days of summer to the short winter days when the sun sits low and long in the sky. Best of all, these films cost less than a dollar a square foot.

The only way to absolutely stop fading is to live in a cool, dark place, such as cave. But, as long as people live in homes and apartments with windows, films offer the most cost-effective protective covering. Of course, just like people need to reapply sunscreen whenever needed to prevent sunburns, homeowners should replace their window films about every four to five years for maximum sustained protection.

Homeowners are realizing that their windows do not block out all of the sun's damaging rays that can ruin fabrics, painted surfaces, wallpaper and woods.

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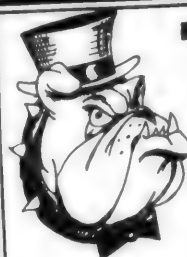
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Come see the greener side of brick

PHOTO COURTESY OF IHT

(IHT) - As we enter a new millennium, more emphasis is being placed on preserving and protecting the world's environment. In this age of environmental consciousness, consumers are looking for products that are - well - "greener" than ever before. Brick has been a popular building material since 2300 B.C. - way before it was cool to be green - and brick is friendlier to the environment than many new convenience materials. In terms of air emissions distributed over the life cycle of the structure, brick has a lower environmental impact than fiber cement board products and synthetic stucco.

It stands to reason that brick, made from a combination of the distinctly earthly elements of clay, water and fire, is about as back-to-the-basics as building products come. This assumption has been confirmed in recent years by industry and academic research on sustainable buildings and green architecture. In fact, the American Institute of Architect's Environmental Resource Guide (1996) advises architects to "select brick, tile or concrete masonry products when possible." Let's take a look at some of the specific attributes that make brick an environmentally friendly building choice.

Brick as a building material

First, brick's mass prevents temperature extremes on the outside of a building from affecting temperature on the inside. Sometimes called "thermal lag," this process translates into year-round comfort and energy savings for occupants. An insulated brick cavity wall resists heat gain more than 50 times better than double-reflective glass and nine times better than an insulated metal sandwich panel wall. Second, brick walls require less insulation than lightweight walls (i.e., synthetic stucco, vinyl, aluminum or wood) for the same energy performance.

Publications are full of articles pertaining to global warming and the effects it is having on weather patterns which often prove destructive. Using brick as a building material offers homeowners a sense of safety, because brick can withstand severe wind and weather. Following the devastation of Hurricane Floyd, a brick "hurricane house" - built to withstand 100 to 110 mph winds with little or no damage - made its debut in a Norfolk, Virginia-area Parade of Homes.

Finally, consumers building with brick can rest assured that the brick on their houses will last. Brick stands the test of



Brick is energy-efficient and earth-friendly, to aid you in building construction.

time. The Ziggurat at Ur, which is made of fired clay brick, has been standing since 2300 B.C. The famous Great Wall of China, constructed around 210 B.C., is made of 3,873,000,000 individual bricks. In this country, one of the more famous historic brick buildings is Independence Hall, built in Philadelphia in the 1700s.

Mining and manufacturing

As brick originates from the earth's clay, it thrives as a nearly inexhaustible natural resource and is manufactured in 38 states. Furthermore, the clay-mining process is virtually harmless to the environment, and a single small mining site may be used for more than a century. After they have been depleted, clay pits can be converted into wildlife preserves or lakes for sport, recreation or conservation use. Carolina Ceramic Inc., a brick manufacturer in Columbia, South Carolina, converted its clay pit into a 2,000-acre wildlife refuge for deer, turkey, dove and quail. And, Acme Brick has transformed more than a dozen of its depleted pits to wildlife sanctuaries stocked with corn-fed catfish.

Unlike other building materials, brick creates little waste when it is manufactured. Mining one pound of clay produces nearly one pound of brick with only slight

The amount of energy needed to produce brick is lower than most competing building materials.

moisture and mineral loss. In comparison, up to 70 percent of the ore used in making steel amounts to waste. The figure is even higher for aluminum – up to 88 percent of the ore used is waste. Disposing of these wastes requires additional energy, adding to the environmental impact of manufacturing.

The amount of energy needed to produce brick is lower than most competing building materials. It takes 50 times more energy to produce one pound of aluminum than to produce the same amount of brick. Brick manufacturing conserves energy in another way as well. Virtually all U.S. brick plants are located within a 20-mile radius of their manufacturing facility, minimizing the energy expended in transporting the raw material to manufacturing sites. No raw clay is imported into the United States, while approximately 90 percent of the ore used for aluminum and about 25 percent used for steel must be imported. Consumers seeking that “made in the USA” seal can rest assured that virtually all brick used in the United States is manufactured domestically.

Recycling brick

In an effort to recycle – and because of its unique appearance – the popularity of old or antique brick is on the rise. Used brick is becoming a fashionable alternative in residential construction. In some areas of the country, “antique” brick commands a higher price than new brick. Recently, Chicago common brick manufactured in the 1930s was in very high demand. People ordered it from all over the country for its quaint, historical and aged appeal. It is important to take your external environment into account when considering used brick, as some older

brick has a poor freeze/thaw resistance, which would be a factor in some areas of the country.

In another innovative form of recycling, new brick that fails to meet the manufacturers’ standards can be easily recycled through an inexpensive crushing process. Crushed brick or “brick chips” may then be used as landscape material or reground to manufacture new, quality brick.

Remember, just because a house or building is being completely renovated, that does not mean that all of the existing brick must go. Because of brick’s long life, it is typically the last material in a building to require recycling. Many renovation projects renew the building around the original existing brick walls.

The generation now in a position to purchase homes is more environmentally conscious than any generation before it. Like it or not, the trend they have created toward purchasing more natural products has become a factor in the home-buying process.

“When polled, most Americans identify themselves as environmentalists,” according to Kenneth A. Hooker, editor of “Masonry Construction.” Furthermore he states, “The environmental issues surrounding construction are certain to continue growing in importance.” Mr. Hooker cites brick’s “durability, thermal storage capacity and ability to serve as both structure and finish” as key product benefits for environmentally concerned consumers.

The greener side of brick is, indeed, multi-faceted, encompassing the naturally occurring elements of its origin, its energy efficiency, earth-friendly manufacturing and unmatched product life. So, what are you waiting for?

Air circulation helps lower energy costs

(NU) – The most fundamental means of reducing heat loss is one that is most commonly overlooked – circulating the air. Caulking windows, closing the fireplace flue, better insulation and alternate fuel sources are some of the most common suggestions for easing the effects of skyrocketing oil costs on your monthly budget. Yet, reclaiming the glut of heated air hovering at the ceiling – which in and of itself can reduce your energy bill – goes largely unpublicized. And, it’s as easy as moving room air around.

However, hauling out that oscillating fan won’t do the trick. Standard fans blow a wide air pattern and for only a short distance, having little or no effect on the total air characteristics of the room. The two most effective means of improving circulation are turning on your ceiling fan (it needs to be reversible, or make certain you reverse the blade rotation) to force stationary air trapped up at the ceiling down into the room, or by using a portable air “circulator.”

A circulator, like a fan, has a blade or propeller to move air. But, the similarity ends there. A true circulator, unlike a conventional fan, is designed to generate a focused “beam” of air. By directing the

“beam” toward the ceiling, the layer of trapped, wasted heat will be reclaimed by circulating it into the room. At the same time, a low-pressure zone created around the path of the beam draws in the surrounding air. The result is a more uniform ambient room temperature and lower heating bills.

How much lower? Using a circulator, you may be able to drop your thermostat four degrees, which can reduce energy consumption by 5 percent to 10 percent. In addition to the monetary benefits, improved circulation will make the air in your home feel more “lively” and lessen the effects of winter stagnation.

Air circulators also can be used to level off the temperature between rooms, should you have a warm room next to a cool room. So, if you can get beyond the oddity of using a “fan” in the winter, you can improve comfort while lowering energy costs.

As you might have guessed, circulators are just as valuable throughout the rest of the year. During summer months, they can be used with or without air conditioning to achieve a cooler, more uniform room temperature while stimulating air movement throughout the entire room.

Using a circulator, you may be able to drop your thermostat four degrees, which can reduce energy consumption by 5 percent to 10 percent.

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Real Estate 2001

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Now's the time to start planning for a great-looking yard

By Eric M. Danis

After a long, snowy winter, you may have begun to dream about spending warm evenings sitting on your patio, sipping a cool drink. With the warm weather, however, comes planning. It is time to start making decisions about your yard and its maintenance, so that it will be fully functional and aesthetically pleasing come late spring and summer.

According to Tom Busta, owner of Dana Landscaping in Methuen, many people enjoy relaxing in their own yards so much that they even eschew vacations.

"A lot of people are actually creating their vacation in their own back yard, rather than

traveling," he says.

One way that a vacation atmosphere can be created in one's yard is by installing a "water garden," a staple of Dana Landscaping's business. But, what exactly is a water garden?

"It's really scary when I say water garden, because people don't know what I'm talking about," says Mr. Busta, who was born and raised in Andover and is currently a skiing coach at Andover High School. "A water garden is actually a small, rubber-lined pond containing fish and plants, often accompanied by a waterfall. A water garden can be a koi (a large, colorful fish bred in Japan) or carp pond. You can have plants like water lilies or cattails. You can have

waterfalls or a fountain."

Mr. Busta has installed small water gardens in lined whiskey barrels, and he has done one as big as 30 feet by 40 feet. He states that the average size of a water garden is 10 feet by 15 feet. A good rule of thumb is that water gardens should not house more than 1 inch of fish per square foot of water, and many fish grow to be at least 10 inches, says Mr. Busta. Violation of the 1-inch-per-square-foot rule may prove too taxing on the water garden's ecosystem.

One reason why many local residents enjoy water gardens is because they do not require much maintenance. Mr. Busta says that the only maintenance necessary is changing the garden's fil-

ter once a week, which takes less than five minutes.

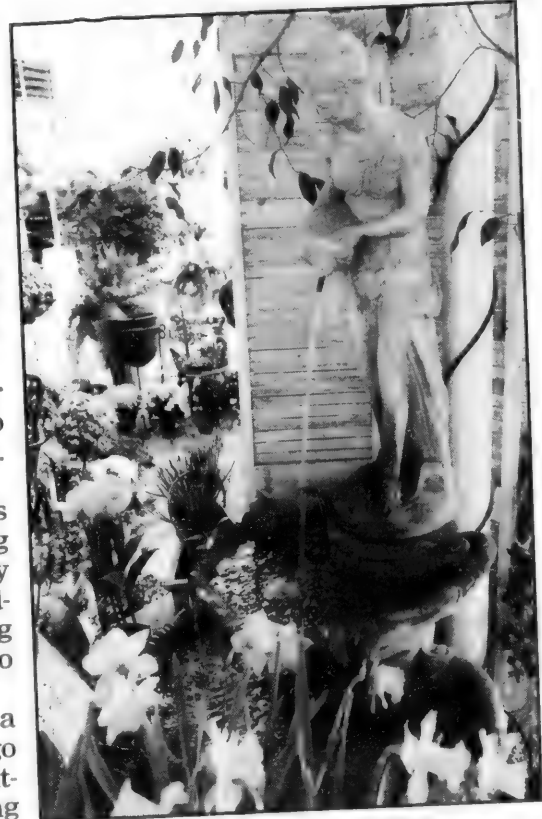
"People don't want to be a slave to their yard," he says.

Many also like the sights and sounds produced by the waterfall or fountain that usually accompany a water garden.

"People want to hear sound, people love to hear water," says Mr. Busta.

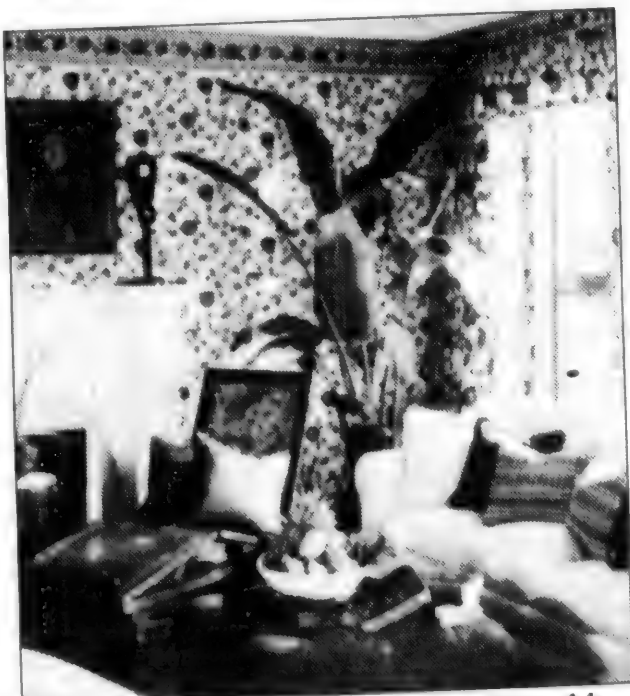
A garden room is another landscaping option that people may want to take into consideration when planning their yards, according to Mr. Busta.

"A garden room is a place where you can go sit and enjoy the outdoors with landscaping around it," says Mr. Busta. "A simple chair or



A fountain can make an a great addition to a backyard garden.

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bench overlooking a vista can be a garden room."

A table and chairs on a small deck or patio, a vegetable garden, a gazebo and even a woodland area can all be defined as garden rooms. The seemingly minor addition to a yard can actually have some major effects, says Mr. Busta. He cites the garden room as a great area to relax. Those with a garden room can relax with coffee and a newspaper or even meditate. Mr. Busta also says that garden rooms are a perfect spot for entertaining. And, privacy can be created, whether you're trying to obtain space from neighbors or even your own household, by properly utilizing a secluded garden room.

One thing to consider

when deciding to construct a garden room, or any change or addition to your property, is how much work will be necessary to maintain the new feature. Many people want nice yards, but they do not want to do much work in order to sustain these yards; such people should take this factor into consideration when planning.

"A huge (priority during the planning stage) is low maintenance," says Mr. Busta. "I would say people mention that 75 percent of the time when I do a design."

According to Mr. Busta, one common mistake that people make when planning their yards is a lack of patience. Many don't take into account how long it will take for cer-

tain flowers to blossom, and they expect too much too quickly. Mr. Busta counsels those he works with to think about how long it will take for certain aspects of a yard to be properly implemented.

"Just enjoy the ride as things mature," says Mr. Busta.

Another factor for consideration is whether you should gear your yard particularly toward one season, especially if you travel frequently.

"Do you go to the beach for a whole month or two in the summer?" asks Mr. Busta. "If so, you might want to plan your yard for the fall, when you'll be there," he says.

Lighting is a yard addition that can be useful in any season. Since

lights can be added for many different purposes, it is necessary to decide what their desired effect is. For instance, lights can be used for safety; pathways, steps and walks can be treacherous to navigate at night, but lighting can help make them safer. Lighting can also be used for security, in order to scare away potential thieves.

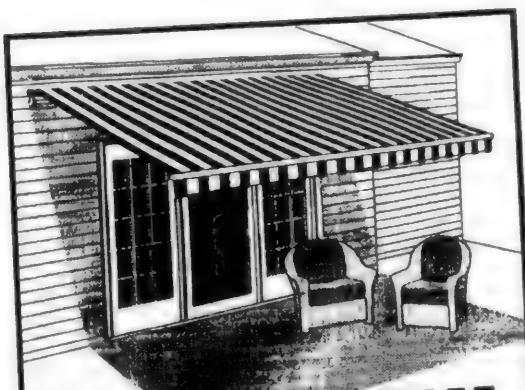
Aesthetic highlighting can also be factored into landscape planning. For instance, lighting can be utilized to highlight garden art, natural beauty or architectural splendor, says Mr. Busta. A romantic or social atmosphere can be achieved via lighting, especially on porches or patios. Mr. Busta says the lights at his own

continued on page 24



Water gardens are popular because they don't require much maintenance, according to Tom Busta of Dana Landscaping.

"A garden room is a place where you can go sit and enjoy the outdoors with landscaping around it," says Mr. Busta.



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YARD

continued from page 23

home accentuate his property nicely.

"We have lights in the trees - it's very subtle, but you can enjoy it," he says.

Planning is an essential component before deciding what to plant and even where to plant, says Mr. Busta. The first step in the process is analyzing the planting area.

"Is it sunny, shady, windy? That would determine what plant would go there," says Mr. Busta. "I would say most of the flowering plants require sun."

Another important factor that determines which flowers or plants to select is the type of soil you have.

Mr. Busta suggests that before deciding upon flowers, plants or trees, it might be wise to consult a "reputable garden center."

"How can the general public know which exact plant they want or need?" he asks.

It is also important to take into account the fact that some plants and trees grow to be quite big. Plants or trees that will become large should not be planted too closely to a house, driveway or walkway, says Mr. Busta.

Dube Property Maintenance in Methuen, owned by Kevin Dube, is a business that provides landscaping maintenance to its customers. According to Mr. Dube, a good lawn takes planning. One of the first things homeowners must consider is the

removal of debris from their lawn, especially after such a snowy winter.

"You don't want to mow the lawn and be sucking up rocks," says Mr. Dube.

When homeowners do mow their lawns, Mr. Dube says it is important that they keep their blades sharpened. Mr. Dube also says that Dube Property Maintenance gives its clients' lawns a "hard rake, to get the grass that

is packed down fluffed up."

Mr. Dube says it is also important for homeowners in the planning stages to decide if they want fertilizer, irrigation or mulch for their yards. Mulch is a great addition to many yards, says Mr. Dube.

"A lot of mulch will keep the weeds down. The look and the smell (are desirable), but its main purpose is to keep mois-



"Some proper pruning is always a good thing to do. If you don't prune, (tree branches) can run into your electrical wires and cause problems," says Kevin Dube of Dube Property Maintenance.

ture locked in for plants or trees," he notes.

One common problem that a homeowner may have is not having his or her lawn on a "fertilizing program," according to Mr. Dube. He recommends that customers plan to fertilize their lawns at least every six weeks. Fertilization can be done by a landscaping service or by the homeowner.

Another problem that Mr. Dube sometimes observes is a lack of proper pruning of trees or plants.

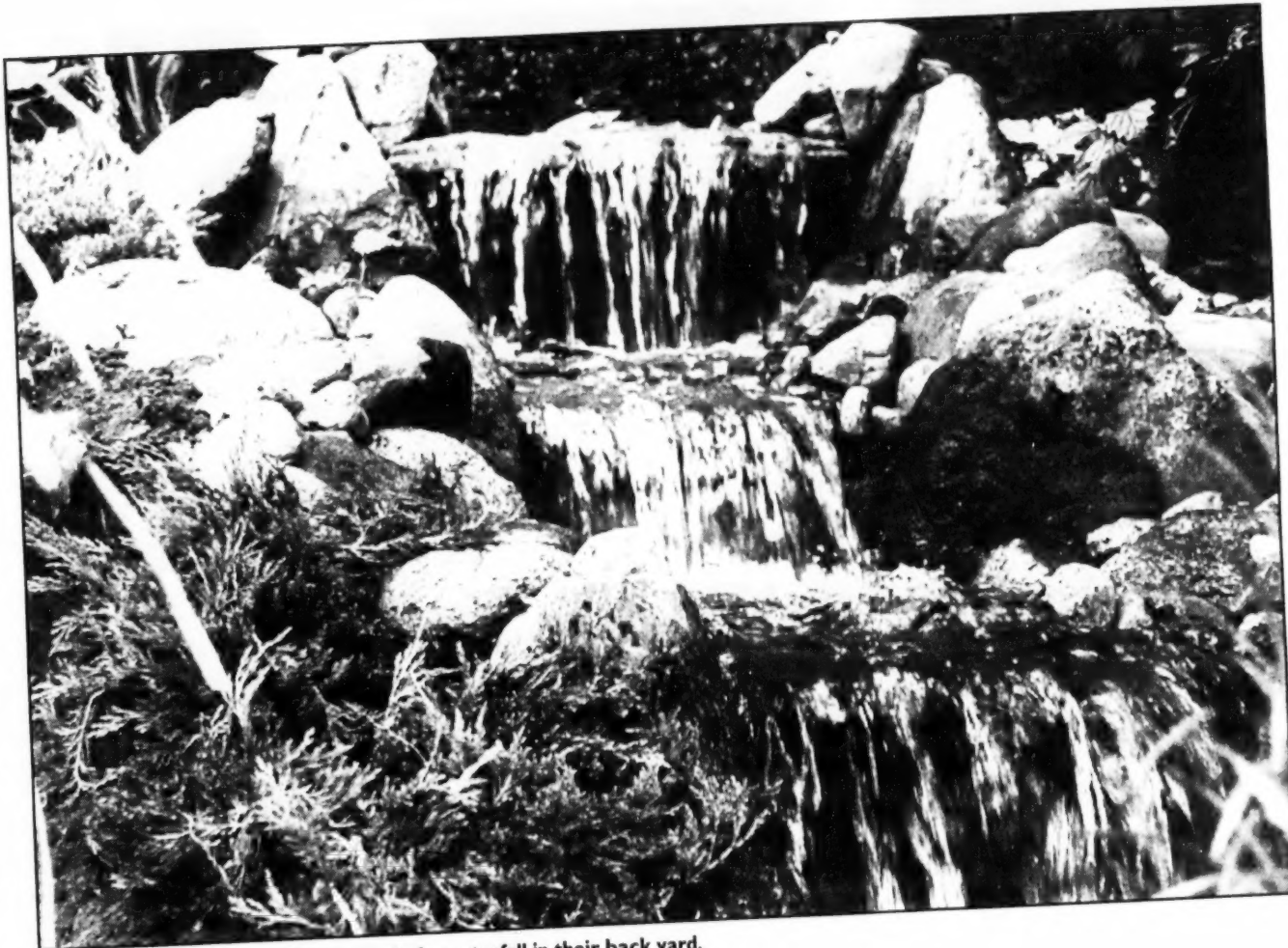
"Some proper pruning is always a good thing to do," he says. "If you don't prune, (tree branches) can run into your electrical wires and cause problems."

Mr. Dube feels that proper watering of the lawn needs to be planned, and he says one inch a week is appropriate.

"If you overwater your lawn, you develop a shallow root system. The grass becomes weaker," says Mr. Dube.

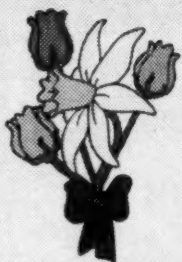
A lack of water can cause a lawn to dry up and turn brown. Those who wish to plan ahead would be wise to invest in a sprinkler system, says Mr. Dube.

"If you go on vacation (and you have a sprinkler), you don't have to worry about watering your lawn," he says. "A sprinkler system is a good investment if you can afford it."



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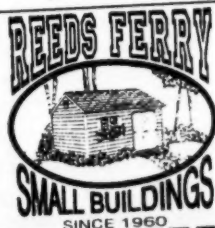
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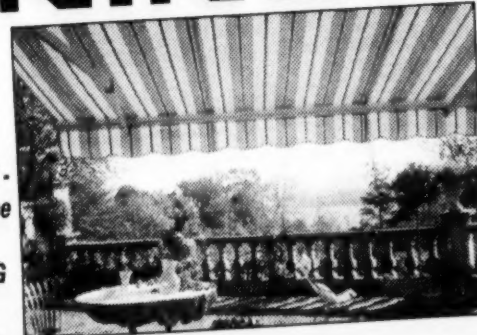
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Outdoor lighting aids in safety and attractiveness of your home

(HIT) – A well-illuminated homesite, farmstead or other rural business can add value to your property in three ways – by enhancing personal safety and preventing injuries, deterring vandalism and theft and extending the productive work hours or outdoor recreation time beyond sundown.

But, do you know how to match the right type of light source to each need and location? If you want to illuminate the area in front of your garage, will a 40-watt, low-pressure sodium lamp provide enough light? How high should it be mounted? Knowing what you need and where to install it can make all the difference in how you spend your outdoor lighting dollars.

All too often, consumers will buy whatever outdoor light fixture happens to be on sale at their local home center, without a thought about mounting height, wattage, energy efficiency or ease of maintenance. The following recommendations can help you make a better choice.

To illuminate large areas around buildings, fuel storage or parking lots, use high intensity discharge lights. This family of light sources are characterized by their intense, bright light and must be mounted high to spread the light and avoid glare. The most efficient are the golden-colored, high-pressure sodium or low-pressure sodium lamps. Mount the fixtures 20 to 30 feet high, depending on the bulb wattage. Don't try to illuminate multiple areas

with just one light, and also insist on a fixture style that uses a reflector or head assembly to direct light downward. A well-designed fixture may cost a little more, but you are gaining in the long run because all of the light that you are paying for is being directed where you can use

it. A typical 90-watt, high-pressure sodium lamp (120W with ballast), burning from dusk to dawn (about 4,100 hours/year) costs \$49.20 to operate annually, at 10¢ per kilowatt-hour.

Around entrance doors, gates or other locked areas, use motion-sensor lights. These infrared-activated spot lights have two advantages. They are only on when needed, and they brighten specific areas to help get keys in locks or maneuver oversized equipment through gates or doors.

The automatic off feature also saves energy, since lights are only on for a short time.

Near the front walkway of a home or business, use a decorative yard light on a 6-foot lamppost to illuminate pathways. These fixtures not only enhance the home's appearance, but they can lower your liability for personal injury and help visitors find their way safely. If the light will be on from dusk to dawn, use a compact fluorescent bulb (rather than a standard incandescent) to save energy and reduce the number of bulb changeouts. These screw-in fluorescents are a worthwhile investment. Make sure it is rated for outdoor use, or it won't come on during cold temperatures.

For a good overall lighting plan, there are other site-specific details that need to be considered.

But overall, the best lighting scheme combines high-intensity-discharge area lighting on tall poles, with motion-sensor fixtures near doors and gates, plus a decorative yard light to illuminate walkways.

To help homeowners, farm operators or other business owners understand more about outdoor lighting, a publication, "Outdoor Lighting for Safety and Productivity" is available from the National Food and Energy Council. The four-page illustrated publication explains each type of high-intensity-discharge light source for area lighting needs, how to use motion-sensor lighting, and it provides recommendations on the right fixture style and placement. An example is illustrated using four different light sources, and the publication lists the expected kilowatt-hour use and annual operating cost for each light.

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Doing the groundwork: Secrets to great garden soil this summer

PHOTO COURTESY OF I-HIT



Establishing good soil is the most important thing we can do for garden plants, according to Bob Bell, president of Mantis.

(HIT) – Want to have the best garden in town this year? Garden experts advise that you begin by making sure your garden soil is healthy.

"Establishing good soil is the single most important thing we can do for the plants we grow in our gardens," says Bob Bell, president of Mantis, a Pennsylvania-based maker of power gardening tools. "The key is knowing what soil consists of and learning how to make it better."

When you pick up a handful of great soil, only about half of it is typically solid matter; the other half is air and water. The tiny air and water pockets found in healthy soil give plant roots the "breathing room" they need to take up nutrients. The little air and water pockets also enable living microorganisms to break down organic matter into forms usable by plants.

"When organic matter decays, it becomes a dark, sticky material called humus," says Mr. Bell. "Humus is the glue that holds soil particles – the sand, clay and silt – together with just the right amount of spaces for air and water."

These humus particles also contribute to soil fertility. Adding humus to sandy soils makes the soil more fertile, because it allows the soil to hold on to water and nutrients. Adding humus to clay soils spreads out the clay particles (which tend to clump tightly together), so water and nutrients can more easily pass through.

The right stuff

According to Mr. Bell, the best way to add humus to your soil is to add compost from your compost bin. Composting is an efficient way to recycle yard wastes into a perfect slow-release fertilizer.

When it comes time to turn your soil and work in the finished compost, you can do it the old-fashioned way (with a hand shovel), or the quick and easy way (with a power tiller). Turning the soil by hand is hard work, which is why power tillers have become so popular.

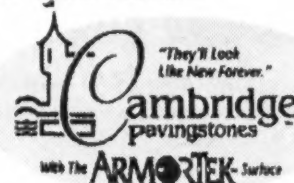
"It's definitely worth the effort to build up your soil," says Mr. Bell. "Your garden will be lush, and your neighbors will be green with envy."

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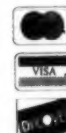
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How to refinish old wood floors

Wood floors of the Victorian era, with plain, unfinished planks, have given way to parquet designs. Restoring these floors goes a long way to creating an authentic period look. Unlike unfinished planks that got their charm from natural wear patterns, shiny strip and parquet floors benefited from new finishing products such as oil, varnishes and shellacs, which added a special look to the floorboards.

If you're restoring a home of this period, opting for a varnish or shellac is a good way to give your floor an authentic period look. Like painting, preparation is more important than application when you're refinishing an old floor.

Many times, if a floor has been properly maintained, it's possible to coat over the existing surface with the same finish. First, prep a small test area by hand sanding it; then, add the chosen finish. If it bites and has the right look, it's probably the same finish that's on there.

Dissimilar products won't work on each other, so don't be tempted to shellac a varnished floor - it simply won't hold. (A note of caution if you go with shellac: This historical finish won't tolerate alcohol or water spills, so be sure to consider the room's usage beforehand.)

You can add a coat of wax over either, if you choose, to preserve and protect the finish while adding a bit of luster to the floor. Keep the surface free of dust and dirt with regular dust mopping. Expect to re wax periodically as this protective coating wears away. It's a small price to pay for retaining a piece of history.

If a previous owner refinished your old floor with a coat of polyurethane, you might decide to strip it off and bring the floor back in a more authentic manner. Although this newer finish is extremely durable and offers a longevity most historical finishes don't, many restorers find it looks

plastic and doesn't mesh well in restored homes.

If the floor is badly stained and scratched, the floor's thickness is the indicator you should use to decide whether sanding is feasible.

Extreme care should be taken when working on old parquet floors. Since these boards are only generally about three-eighths of an inch thick, there's probably only about one-eighth inch to work with until the tongue is reached. As a result, many restorers will recommend stripping the floor by hand, either with a hand scraper or chemicals if the finish must be removed.

Although this obviously can be a very labor-intensive job, it might be the only way to refinish some old parquet without ruining the floor. Since an old strip floor is thicker, many of these floors can be sanded.

There is another factor that should be considered when you're deciding whether to sand an early floor. Remember that flooring spans structural members. And, the construction techniques common to many old homes are different from those we consider standard today. More than likely, your floor joints are 1 inch or so thick. The thickness of the board is adequate for this large span. But, when the board is worn (or sanded) down to seven-eighths of an inch or three-eighths of an inch, you're apt to get some spring in the floor.

It's noteworthy that every sanding decreases the thickness of a wood floor by about one-sixteenth of an inch to three-sixteenths of an inch. So, there are only so many times you can sand down a wood floor. An easy way to gauge the thickness of the old floor is to remove the molding and baseboard or a floor heating register to reveal the edge of the wood.

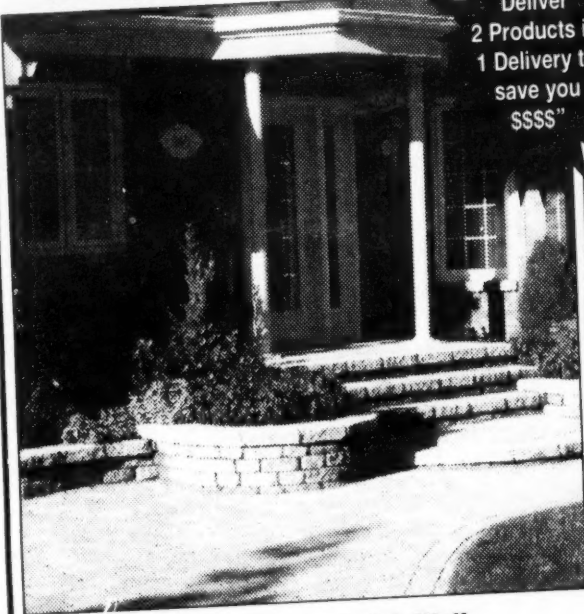
Source: Popular Mechanics

Restoring your floors goes a long way to creating an authentic period look.

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